Demands for Supplementary Grants.

1. I—Land Revenue—Rs. 155—9—0.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—I beg to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 155—9—0 under 'I—Land Revenue'. The House remembers the motion that I made in 1105 for a supplementary grant of Rs. 840 which was required for the appointment of a special staff to partition the Ambat properties under a decree of Court. There was a discussion about the matter in the Council. It was at the instance of some Members of the Ambat Tarawad that a special staff was sought to be appointed, they agreeing to incur the expenses required for the purpose. Sanction was applied for and it was given by the Government. The staff was appointed for a period of six months and a Supplementary Grant was moved in this Council for Rs. 840. That was the amount required for the pay and other charges of the establishment for six months. The Council objected to the grant on principle. The sense of the House then was that it is not proper for the Government to realise any amount from a private party for the appointment of officers who have to do certain legitimate duties in the exercise of their ordinary functions and when it was ascertained the motion for the grant was withdrawn. That took place towards the close of Vrischigam and in early Dhanu the staff was disbanded. But till then certain amount was required to maintain the staff and that comes to Rs. 155—9—0. I may be permitted to state that the staff was entertained before the sanction of the House was applied for to incur the expenditure, not because it was thought that the sanction would,as a matter of course, be accorded but because it was thought that it was not necessary to have any Supplementary Grant. It was only when the Comptroller of Accounts pointed out that it might be necessary to move for a Supplementary Grant that the matter became intelligible. As soon as it was so pointed out by him a Supplementary Grant was asked for. But the motion was withdrawn under the circumstances already stated.A month and a few days expired in the meantime and during that time the staff had to be paid. I pray that the House may be pleased to sanction this amount. This was done in the belief that there was money and that could be utilised without getting the permission of the Council. If any further information is necessary, I shall give.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Have you refunded the amount received ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Yes.

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Dr. A. G. Menon.—Was any new staff appointed or you asked some of your subordinates to conduct the partition ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—The staff was appointed from among those in service. In the place of the people taken new men have been appointed.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—May I know the nature of the work there ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—They have been surveying properties, sub-dividing them, etc.

Mr. A. Eachra Menon.—Will they be of any use hereafter when they have to do their legitimate work ? They are to divide the property, will that work which is done now be of any use ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—They will be of use.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Is it a mere adjustment or is it money to be paid ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Money was paid. It must be covered by a sanction.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—A certain amount was paid to you to cover the whole expenditure, 800 rupees or so ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—No, only three months' pay was given. That was refunded.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—It is money to be spent by the Government but could not continue, is it ?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Yes.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. V. Achyuta Menon.—*To reduce allotment of Rs. 155—9—0 for item No. 1 by Re 1.*

Mr. V. Achyuta Menon.—I have tabled this motion to bring to the notice of the Governmet the want of cattle grazing grounds in the villages and in almost all the towns of the State.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—There is a resolution on this matter.

Mr. V. Achyuta Menon.—I wanted to bring the fact to the notice of the Government. I am not going to press my motion. I did not know that the resolution would be taken up at this meeting. Most of the villages and towns have no cattle grazing grounds. So far as Ernakulam itself is concerned the public roads are used by cattle as grazing grounds. A few days back one of the bulls snatched off a plantain bunch and the owner poured boiled water over its body which terribly scalded. I wish to say that it is a real want and the sooner it is satisfied, the better. With these words I beg to withdraw the motion.

The motion was withdrawn with leave of the House.

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Motion No. 2.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar:— *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 155—9—0 for item No. 1 by Re. 1.*

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—I move that the supplementary grant of Rs. 155—9—0 be reduced by Re. 1. My motion is intended to bring to the notice of the Government the undesirability of getting down anybody from outside the State to fill up the Diwan Peishkar's post which will soon be vacant by the retirement of Mr. Krishna Menon. There have been some criticisms in the papers about this and I think the public have begun to view it with concern. My object, by means of this motion, is to bring to the notice of the Government the opinion of the non-official Members of this House on this very important matter. I may at the outset state that I have no quarrel about the person whom you are going to select because I do not know anything about him. I raise this point on a point of principle and that principle is whether we should not manage with the persons that we have in our service (*Hear, hear*) or in the State. Sir, my position is that there are enough men fit to occupy this post in the service itself and if you think that there are not enough of such men you can find any number from the non-officials. I do not wish to make any mention of names here because I feel that this is not the place or the occasion to consider the merits or demerits of any prospective candidate. But, as I said before, I stand on this principle and what I submit is that so long as we have men enough in our State we should not go in for men from outside. If there are not proper men in the Revenue Department, there are men in other departments. There had been similar instances before and that practice was never found a failure. After all what type of men do we want? We want a man with some general knowledge, a strong common sense, independent views, who will be able to manage the department. We are not going to initiate any revenue policy or anything of the kind now.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Why not?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—So far as I know, there is no policy looming before us. In the first place, we have no independent policy however much we wish to have it. We generally imitate the policy that is obtained in Travancore and British India as you do in the Excise Department. Some expert knowledge will be essential only during the next settlement which is not very near. It will take some more years for it, and you can easily train up some man if you have none with special training in the department. I think the main difficulty is not that they

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have not sufficient men here to occupy the Diwan Peishkar's post with success. The Government is too much obscessed with the fact that there is a great difference between the pay of the Tahsildar and that of the Diwan Peishkar. I think that difference can be done away with if you think that the Tahsildars are able to carry out that work. If not you can get a more responsible officer from any other department, get him trained, see how he conducts himself for a few months. Do we not often hear the cry—Travancore for Travancoreans, British for British Indians? Why not we have a policy of Cochin for Cochinites? It would be a drain on the resources of the State. If the proposed policy is given effect to, we will be perpetually in need of a Diwan Peishkar from outside. On the retirement of the proposed officer we will be landed back to the same state of affiars as exists now. We will be moving in a vicious circle always. Sir, ours is, after all, a small State and so long as we have a strong Diwan, and I think we have one in you, we must be able to manage with men of average capacities as our Heads of Departments. They have only to do the routine work. In these circumstances I request all the Members of the House and the non-official Members in particular, to give their best consideration to this mattar and give their opinion so that it may be of some help to the Government which, if it has not finally decided upon an importation, may make use of it before they come to a decision. With these words I move the motion.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I rise to second this motion. What has happened in our State is: thanks to nepotism and favouritism that were rampant for some time; and the selfishness and self-aggrandisement, and ignoring of real merits and recognition and discovery of merit even in the reprehensible pathways, attachment to family ties and detachment from the country in the distribution of the loaves and fishes of the State service, causing both surfeit and starvation simultaneously at the same stroke, and the breaking of promises and shaking of public confidence, and the deterioration of the character of the control exercised by the central powers and the attempted covering of the whole thing by verbose homilies delivered inside this House from the advantageous Presidential Chair raised a big cry.

President.—Is the Hon'ble Member entitled to refer to the President like that?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—We never expected such verbose homilies. I am only commenting upon the Diwan and not upon the President raised a big cry in the country, and brought you to this beautiful garden of Cochin to tend her, to care for her and to remove old and stumbling blocks that arrest the growth

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and consume the sap that should necessarily go to the robust plants growing there already, and Sir, the time is come now to see what can be done with the talents inside the country Sir, if you cannot find mature saplings in the service garden itself then Sir, if you only cast your eyes when you need to replenish your garden, you have in the nursery just outside the service, any number of saplings and even matureetrees ready and fit for transplantation into the garden, and your skill will consist in the selection. The grafting of exotic plants in the garden of Cochin will only result in dishing fruits not quite to our taste. If the sun in the centre of the administration has his heat and sheds his light without dimness, all the trees in the garden will, by a natural law, come up straight and even the trees that are bent will straighten themselves.

There is no doubt that there are enough and more of talents inside Cochin. It is regrettable to note that, when our men go outside of Cochin and win laurels in service elsewhere, for manning our own service we have not got enough men! Looking at the official block, the remark that has been made inside this House from this half by the Hon'ble Member for Irinjalakkuda that it should not be a rubber garden has become true! But I don't complain. They have every right to be there and if all the appointments in the service go to one section, religious, racial or to any other section, by any other denomination, they may be characterised; I do not mind it, provided we all feel as one whole. But that feeling has not yet come: and servants are masters in the land. Public servants unfortunately have become sole masters of the public mind and public affairs and therefore it is that each section of the population vies with one another to come into that garden, so that their sections may also be raised up. It has been held that unless a section has got a large number of appointments, the value of the section is nothing. That is also a legitimate feeling. In these circumstances we hope, Sir, that you would find out the proper talents to man the proper places, and except where it is absolutely necessary for technical purposes, and we have not got men with that technical knowledge, you will take men from this State itself. We should not look for men from elsewhere. That is all that I want to say in this matter.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—Sir, the next motion with reference to this demand stands in my name and the reason that has been given on the back of that paper being more or less the same, I think, I would take this opportunity of saying a few words in support of the motion that has been moved by my Hon'ble friend by my side. Sir, my object in having tabled

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that motion, and in my standing now to support the motion that has been moved, is to draw the special attention of the Government to a general feeling that exists in this country, that there is no necessity to bring anybody from outside to man the ordinary services here. That is the general feeling here. This motion is intended not merely to convey to the Government that general feeling but also the special object of drawing its attention to the news that is published in responsible newspapers like the Madras Mail, that a British officer is to be appointed here as Diwan Peishkar, when the present incumbent retires from service. Let me state at the very outset, that my object is not at all to criticise the step taken by the Government—if the news is true. Far from it. It is only to appeal to your sense of justice and fairplay, to safeguard the interests of Cochinites as far as possible, by manning the services here with the best men you can get from amongst the people of Cochin itself.

I have absolutely no reason to think that the interests of Cochin are not safe in your hand—the welfare and happiness of her people will, I know, be always uppermost in your mind. Even the present appointment that is the subject matter of this motion, if it is thought of by you, is thought of only becauseyou think that that is best in the interests of Cochin at present. Let me repeat once more that we do not entertain the slightest suspicion that you are actuated by any other motive than to promote the efficiency of the service and thereby increase the efficiency of the whole administration itself. We certainly expect you to bring the administration of our State to the highest level of efficiency possible under your able guidance. Your object and our expectations and desires are identical. You may rest assured that you can count upon the hearty and willing co-operation of the people of Cochin to bring about this happy achievement. But you know, Sir, that under our present constitution we cannot exercise any direct and effective control on your actions as the executive head of the State, and as the person directly responsible for the whole administration. Your powers in this matter, you know, are large indeed and we have the consolation that you will exercise the same wisely and discriminately, always keeping in mind that the administration is a sacred trust entrusted into your hands and that you are a trustee on behalf of the real beneficiaries who are the people of Cochin. We also have the consolation, Sir, that you will attach very great value to all reasonable representations and requests that we may make either inside this Council or outside, and that you would like also to know our views so that you may so

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shape your policies and actions as to satisfy the legitimate aspirations and desires of the people here. I therefore, request you to consider that if I happen to say, that your contemplated appointment is not in the best interests of Cochin, that I am only making an appeal to you that you will be pleased to consider the views of Cochin people in the matter before you take the final step.

Sir, Cochin people have amidst them trained men to man all branches of the service, and it is singular that, when Cochinites in foreign service win wide approbation and fame, their merits are neither discovered nor recognised in their own land. We look to you to advance the cause of Cochin and its people by selecting and manning the service with the best men you can get from amongst the Cochin people themselves. When we joined hands to throw out the resolution at a previous meeting of this Council for the appointment of a Staff Selection Board, we did so with the fullest confidence in you that you would give the best in the State their due chances and we still look to you to do so. It seems to us that you have not had time yet to develop that trust in men here which is needed to make selections. Otherwise there can be no room for bringing men from outside.

Sir, in these days when Cochinites find it very hard to get admissions even in educational institutions outside—let alone the question of admission into foreign services—employment in the public service of Cochin should first be for the large educated and struggling people of Cochin itself, before you think of outsiders, and only when it becomes impossible or inevitable should resort be made for getting men from outside.

In our opinion it will not be difficult for the Government to find suitable men for any post in Cochin service, if the Government will not confine its field of choice to the services alone There are men with equal, if not superior, qualifications and having the requisite experience outside the services also and they, given the opportunity, will certainly rise to the occasion and these are all sons of the soil. The Government will certainly have to bestow great care in the matter of selection.

We would therefore earnestly request the Government to be pleased to reconsider the matter in the light of these representations and to drop the idea of bringing people from outside.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, as stated by the Hon'ble Member for Vellarappalli, I may at the very outset state that the proposal to get the loan of a British Officer for a short term in the vacancy that is going to be caused by the retirement

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of the Diwan Peishkar is only in the very best interests of the State and the service. The Land Revenue Department is, though not so technical as the Engineering or the Medical Departments, also technical. It requires a man who has a clear grasp of revenue principles, survey and other details, with which alone he could satisfactorily carry out the duties which fall upon him.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May we know the other details?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The details are knowledge of survey etc., and these are not covered by a study of the manual. It requires practical training to some extent. To find out such a person at present from the State is very difficult. As a matter of fact thece is nobody here with the requisite knowledge and requisite experience ready to hand. Government do not deny that a person with ordinary qualifications may be got trained in due course and that is the very reason why the proposal is only to get the loan of an officer for a short term.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—May we know the period?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The period has not been definitely settled. I think the loan will be only for the minimum period of three years. Therefore I may assure the House that the sentiments expressed that the Cochinites should be provided first with appointments in Cochin, that Cochin has got enough of educated persons and so need not look for outsiders for help in her service, all these sentiments have been duly considered. The fact is that there is nobody with the requisite survey training and revenue knowledge who could immediately be put in the place. Hence the proposal under the consideration to get the loan of a British Officer with all the necessary qualifications and that for a minimum short period.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—What is the grade of the British Officer who comes here, Sir?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The details have not been fixed.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—May I know whether there are not any persons among the Tahsildars, who have got the requisite knowledge in survey and revenue?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—That alone again is not the necessary qualification. High standard of general knowledge is also necessary. He must be the leader of the House.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—I want to know whether there are not Tahsildars who satisfy knowledge of survey, etc.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes, there are.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Are not the Tahsildars here given the necessary training as is done in British India?

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Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not know what course exactly a Divisional Officer in British India has to go through, and whether it is absolutely and completely covered by the Survey School at Trichur.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—My question was whether the Revenue Training Schools that we have got in the department in our State do not give all the technical training as is given to revenue officers in British India.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not think that it has a sufficiently wide curriculum for the purpose.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I want a straight answer to the straight question, viz., whether the training given here is the exact copy of what is given in British India or whether it is a new curriculum and also whether a non-official with high standard cannot be selected and trained in the school and then brought in.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The standard of our school is different from that of the other school the Member refers to.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know whether there was a practice in the State of appointing Tahsildars to the place of Secretary to the Diwan?

President.—That does not arise at all in this matter.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.— The difficulty as I understand it to be, is in appointing the seniormost Tahsildars to the place of the Diwan Peishkar because of the difference in their grades of pay. I understand there was a time when Tahsildars used to be appointed as Secretary to the Diwan and from that place shifted on to the Diwan Peishkar's place.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not know whether the Secretary to the Diwan's place is the official channel for Tahsildars to pass through before being appointed as Diwan Peishkar.

President.—If necessary you may address the House.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Some information is necessary before I proceed to speak. Was there any instance of such Secretary to the Diwan being appointed as Diwan Peishkar?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes. Secretaries to the Diwans have been appointed as Diwan Peishkars.

Mr. A. S. Harihara Ayyar.— At the time of the State Survey it was given to understand that all the past experience and mistakes of the British Government in Malabar and other parts were taken into account and our State Survey was done in such a manner that none of those mistakes should recur. And the State Survey was done in the best manner possible so that it need not be repeated into a re-survey. I want to know

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whether that information is correct or not. Was such a thing—were the people made to understand like that?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not quite follow the Hon'ble Member.

Mr. A. S. Harihara Ayyar.—If I remember aright the best officials so as to suit all conditions and rectify all the mistakes that cropped up in the survey of Malabar were appointed in the State during Sir P. Rajagopalachariar's Diwanship. Further, Diwan Pattabhirama Rao was considered to be the best for settlement also. He was got down for that special purpose and the under-affairs standing at that time was all these things were done in the best way that it requires very little rectification in survey matters and therefore very little has to be done in survey in Cochin.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not know what promises have been made or what statements have been made at that time.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—In the light of a very careful phraseology used by the Hon'ble the Secretary to the Government namely, that the best interests of Cochin have been very carefully considered in making an attempt at the appointment of a foreign officer and that it was done because a person with the requisite qualification could not be found in the State,— after this phraseology I think that all of us here are completely disarmed. No doubt if *such are the circumstances* there is no gain-saying the fact that in the interests of service, if the loan of an officer for however temporary a period is necessary, it has to be done. When we say this we are naturally reminded of the circumstances that brought about this state of affairs. Sir, when the present Diwan Peishkar was snatched, I say from the Chief Court of Cochin, to occupy the present position, I was one of those who interpellated the Government for assigning the reasons why such a transfer was made. The answer then was that it was done in the best interests of the State. If, as a matter of fact, at that time, if a proper selection had been made and proper training had been given to that person he could take this place now at least, as he satisfies the necessary conditions. If the Government had looked ahead a little then certainly this state of affairs would not have arisen. The way that, in the past, things were done with no fixed principle or aim is the reason, according to my humble opinion, that such a state of affairs had been brought about. We all know that there is no use crying over spilt milk. I would request the Government, though it is given in the form of a cut motion, I say, I would request the Government to see what is in the best interests of the State and do accordingly. Whether at present it disappoints somebody

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or disappoints the State as a whole, it does not matter, because some bitter pills may have to be taken some times to obtain perfect health. Now I say these things because there are many, I think, who do not wish to speak because they are under the apprehension that their speaking will be misconstrued as being of people who are aspiring to offices and therefore object to it. To avoid suspicion some people are keeping silent over this question.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Are we not entitled to aspire?

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—To be frank many of my friends have asked me to speak upon this subject because they know that I am no aspirant for any place whatsoever. (*Laughter*).

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Age bar!

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Age bar or disqualification whatever it may be, it is immaterial. Therefore to conclude what I respectfully beg to submit is that, though this motion is given in the form of a cut motion, it should not be construed as a criticism upon an intended act but only as a humble request to the Government to consider all aspects of the question and do the thing so that we may not have occasion to borrow again and again.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശ്യം നല്ല താണെന്നു് സ്പഷ്ടമായിരിക്കുന്നതു കൊണ്ടു് തല്ക്കാലത്തേക്കു മാത്രമുള്ള ഈ പ്രവർത്തിയെ അനുകൂലിക്കേണ്ടതു് അനുദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ കടമയാണെന്നാണു് എന്റെ വിശ്വാസം. നാടിന്റെ രാജ്യത്തു് ഇതേവരെ ഉദ്യോഗനിയമനത്തിലുണ്ടായിരുന്ന ഒരു ധാരണ, ഏതാളും ഏതുഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിനും കൊള്ളാമെന്നതായിരുന്നു. അതിന്റെ അർത്ഥം ഓരോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടിലും തക്കയോഗ്യതയുള്ളവർ വളരെ അപൂർവ്വമായെ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നുള്ളുവെന്നാണു്. വാസ്തവത്തിൽ നിസ്സാരമായ ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടല്ലാഇതു്. മേലധികാരിയോഗ്യനായാൽ ഈ രാജ്യത്തിലെ ഭൂരിപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങൾക്കു് വളരെ ഗുണം ചെയ്യാവുന്നതും, യോഗ്യതയില്ലാത്തവരും ഉദ്ദേശശുദ്ധിയില്ലാത്തവരും ആയാൽ മഹാദ്രോഹം ചെയ്യാവുന്നതുമായ ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ട്മെണ്ടാണിതു്. അതിന്റെ ഭരണം ഏറ്റവും തൃപ്തികരമാക്കുന്നതിനു്, ഗുണകരമാക്കി തീർക്കുന്നതിനാണു് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു ശ്രമിക്കുന്നതെന്നുള്ളകാര്യത്തിൽ ഭിന്നാഭിപ്രായം ഉണ്ടാകുമെന്നു് എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. അതിനാൽ ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ ഈ പ്രവർത്തിയെ അനുകൂലിക്കേണ്ടതു് അനുദ്യോഗസ്ഥമെമ്പർമാരുടെ കടമയാണെന്നു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നു. എന്നാൽ ഈ വിദേശത്തുനിന്നും ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ ഇറക്കുമതി ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു് ഒരു കീഴ്ക്കടയായിട്ടു് എടുക്കുകയില്ലെന്നു ഗവമ്മെണ്ടും ഒരു ഉറപ്പുതരണ്ടതായിരിക്കുന്നു. തല്ക്കാലത്തെ ആവശ്യത്തിനു വേണ്ടി

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വിദേശത്തുനിന്നും ഒരാളെ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നു. ഈ നാട്ടിലെ ഒരാളെ ട്രെയിനിംഗ് ചെയ്യിച്ചു പാകം ആക്കുന്നതുവരെ മതിയെന്നുള്ള ഉദ്ദേശത്തോടുകൂടിയാണ് ഒരാളെ പുറത്തുനിന്നുകൊണ്ടു വരാൻപോകുന്നതെന്നു് സർവ്വമെണ്ടു പറയുന്നു. നല്ല ഉദ്ദേശത്തോടുകൂടിചെയ്യുന്ന ഈ പ്രവർത്തിയെ അനുകൂലിക്കേണ്ടതു രാജ്യക്ഷേമകാംക്ഷികളായ എല്ലാവരുടേയും കടമയാണെന്നു ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Sir, I rise to support the motion as it stands qualified by the speeches made on the floor of this House. I have often had occasion to state in this House in very clear terms that we should have cent per cent efficiency for the State services. I would not stop short of any step whatsoever that may have to be taken with a view to secure efficiency. I understand from what has been said by the mover of the cut as well as by his supporters that they are also of that view. I do not hear any one saying that there may not arise the eventuality wherein importation may become necessary, and from the reply of the Government I understood that the Government has also agreed that only the direst necessity would oblige the Government to get down an officer from some other service. So we are all agreed. I have reason enough to emphasise what has already been emphasised by the previous speakers namely, the position that there must be the clearest justification for introducing a non-Cochinite in the Cochin service. It may be that special technical skill is necessary. I know cases in which when technical skill was available, British Officers were imported and to the great advantage of the State. I believe our Survey and Settlement is almost perfect and it is admitted on all hands that that is due to the efficient way in which some British Officers, brought down for the purpose, conducted it. There may be cases like that where we may want the help of outsiders. I cannot understand any justification for importing men from outside when there is the cry everywhere that Cochin for Cochinites, Travancore for Travancoreans and Mysore for Mysoreans except on such a ground. That is a legitimate cry because after all Cochin is Cochinites' own. Nobody from outside has any interest in this place. Cochinites have got certain rights and their rights are centred in Cochin and if their legitimate rights are thought to be invaded they have serious reason to resent. With regard to the invasions of the rights of Cochinites I would only reiterate what has been said by the other Hon'ble speakers. As regards the importation of an officer for the post of the Diwan Peishkar, I am not an expert and I am not in a position to

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pronounce any judgment upon it. The statement of the Government is that it is in the best interest of the State and vitally necessary. I have no reason to disbelieve that statement and do accept it. What I want to emphasise is, without such absolute necessity, no such importation should be made to the detriment of the Cochinites.

Mr. M. A. Chakko—Motions and resolutions and interpellations are made in this House for communal representation of backward communities in distributing the loaves and fishes of the public services. Objection was then taken on the ground of efficiency. So efficiency is a very important factor in the making of appointments to public service. The State subjects may be thought of as two sets. First there are aspirants to the posts. They are persons, subjects of the State, who wish to serve the State. It is on behalf of those willing and anxious to serve that the cry is raised "Cochin for Cochinites." But the other set, the main body, want service to be rendered. Those who want good service to be rendered to the State do not care whoever is appointed, provided they are efficient and good to serve. A stage, I think, has come in our administration that the public of Cochin feel that they have a right for better service. They make a loud cry that they can be rendered better service. Better service should be rendered them is the feeling abroad. It is therefore that you, Sir, are particularly looked for and anxiously waited for to assume the reins of Government. People are waiting to see that the service is strengthened by you. Now certain obstacles, as the Member for Jews pointed out, have to be removed. But the service has to be made as efficient as possible. And for that the means that the Government proposes to adopt, as has been stated by the Hon'ble the Secretary to the Diwan, is to get the loan of the services of a British officer. This is not the first time that we had the necessity to go for loans to fill the post of the Diwan Peishkar. Mr. Krishnamachari's services were got as a loan to put things in order some 20 years ago soon after the Revenue Settlement. Under him the late Diwan Peishkar Mr. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar got a good deal of training before he was called to occupy that place

Mr. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar then served the State as Diwan Peishkar most efficiently for a long time with credit to himself and benefit to the public. (*Hear, hear*). Under Mr. Krishnamachari who was imported into the State to put things in order soon after the Setlement, the Revenue Settlement, he had adequate training and after that he was called to fill the office. We have seen that step has been a right step and was profitable too. Now about the talents in Cochin, there is no denying that we

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have got enough raw material to take up and shape and fashion. (*Hear, hear*). Unfortunately, for reasons which need not be repeated here, it has not been done and there is no use of now crying over that mistake. About the suggestion that any of the Tahsildars, may be just for the time being, promoted to the place, and the administration can manage the things to go on, it has to be said that this going on policy we have had for the last six or seven years and it has brought dissatisfaction among the State subjects. So I would urge on the Members of this House that it is their legitimate duty to second or to support the Government in their present policy of having a proper officer brought from outside temporarily, for a short time, as a loan.

Mr. K. Mohammed Seethi.—Sir, I rise to speak on this motion not because I desire to add any more argument in support of this motion but only to demonstrate the fact that on this question there is absolute unanimity of feeling among the different communities of the State. I do not in the least desire to cause any embarrassment to the Government in the step which they have taken in the best interests of the State, and as has been emphasised by the previous speakers, I do not for a moment question the *bona fides* or the motive of the Government in coming to the decision which they have. What I wonder is whether the Government are in a position to say the last word on the subject or whether they would not further consider the question in the light of the criticisms and suggestions made on the floor of this House. If the Government finds it possible to reconsider the matter the non-official Members of this House and the public of Cochin will be grateful and indebted to them. That is the point which I want to emphasise in speaking on this motion which has been supported by a wealth of most cogent arguments. I do not for a moment believe that you, Sir, will be in any way countenancing a policy of importing men from outside even where a son of the soil may be acting otherwise. It may be an irony of fate. You, I believe, will never be a party to any proposal which will overlook the claims and rights of the people of Cochin. What I want to make plain is that, though you happen to be a Diwan from outside, we do not entertain the least doubt that you would overlook the rights and claims of the sons of the soil. Our only desire is that in these matters the question of efficiency should not be the altar at which the rights and interests of Cochin are sacrificed. I would not yield to anybody in the matter of advocating the cause of efficiency, but at the same time efficiency, as I suggested, should not be made an excuse for brushing aside the rights of the people of Cochin. Let us consider the question of efficiency. We may find outside Cochin

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more competent and more experienced persons, persons with greater skill and capacity to man any one of our departments than those who do so now. Do you countenance the suggestion that for that reason we should replace our men by their betters from outside? If that is so, for every appointment in Cochin, we will have to go abroad for candidates. The argument of efficiency has to be qualified and restricted with reference to the sufficiency and the minimum efficieney of those that are available in the State. The minimum efficiency can be converted into maximum efficiency only by training and opportunities. We have not to look for raw materials elsewhere. The Hon'ble Member who spoke before me has conceded the point that the raw materials are with us. Why not we convert them into manufactured goods? Unless we do so our raw material will always remain raw material and nothing more than that. I may make a suggestion in this connection. Several of our Tahsildars, as has been admitted by the Hon'ble Secretary to the Government, are people possessed of the minimum qualification, both literary and technical, required for the Head of the Revenue Department. Several of them have had very good training under heads of our department who had special skill and technical training. We have to realise that our Tahsildars had occasion to come in contact with every part of our State. Our State is not the equal of a British Indian district in the matter of extent. Our officers have therefore, got very many opportunities of coming in contact with every part of the State at one time or other during the period of their service. Such being the case the Government have to consider whether any one of them can be invested with the powers of the Head of the Revenue Department. This matter deserves the careful consideration of the Government and as I have said at the outset of my speech our earnest request to the Government is that the matter may be reconsidered. If they come to the conclusion that it is inevitable that the present step should be taken there will be no clamour from the non-officials. They will certainly leave the matter in the hands of the Government. They would trust the bona fides of the Government under your guidance.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, let me at the outset say with all the emphasis that I can command that, I attribute absolutely no bad motive to the Government for their idea of getting a foreigner. My object is only to establish a principle and to bring home to the notice of the Government that, consistent with that principle, we should be able to manage our affairs with the men that we have here. The Hon'ble Member who spoke for the Government on this subject said that what he found

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wanting in the State service is a man with a good grasp of revenue principles and survey. The other requisite qualification is a fair standard of general knowledge which I am sure can be found in large quantities in our State. As regards the first, what is the knowledge of survey that you think that your Diwan Peishkar should possess? That is the question that you have got to consider. (*Hear, hear*). Surely we do not want the Diwan Peishkar to measure a field and make a plan. For the technical part of it there is the Land Record Office. In fact we want him to have only a working knowledge of the survey, the main broad principles of it, so that he may check what his subordinates do. That is all what we want. Is it very difficult to get such men from amongst us. All the judicial officers and the Chief Court vakils know survey very well. Do you not entrust them with the most complicated cases, the most complicated cases in the survey? Do you not abide by their decision? Is it not then an insult to the intelligence of the Cochin State to say that there is not one with the requisite general knowledge who understand the broad principles of the survey? (*Hear, hear*) Are we in such a critical state of affairs that we cannot manage without a survey expert? We are passing through normal times. There is no difficult situation now. There is a real one and that the Government is not prepared to tackle with, that is, the problem of unemployment, the fall in prices, the economic depression. The Government is not going to tackle it. This is by the way. So far as I am concerned I can find any number of men who will do the work of the Diwan Peishkar very well. I say to the Hon'ble members, we are agitating for more powers. Suppose we are given more powers and asked to form a ministry to-morrow. Do you mean to say no, we don't want more powers because, we have none amongst us who has the requisite knowledge of survey? Surely you are not going to say that. Who are the persons in the Provincial Governments who are incharge of the land revenue? Have they passed the Survey test? Are they not men with a good general knowledge and strong common sense only? I also warn you against another danger. The Government said that they have not made up their minds as to what period they propose to bring him. They are telling us that it is for a short period. What is that short period they have not chosen to tell us.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Three years. It may be less than three years.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Why do you want him for three years? Can you not send a man and ask him to get

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himself trained in Madras within six months? Or can we not wait for six months to see how things are managed with our own men if you think that a special training is not necessary. I am afraid this short period, this exigency of service, this efficiency of service may after all be putting the thin end of the wedge. These importations are, like so many other things, very contagious. You will see one officer coming to-day and another following him to-morrow. To some distance lends enchantment to the view. To others familiarity breeds contempt. It is either the one or the other of these that are working in the minds of those who oppose this simple motion. They have no trust and confidence in our own men. They do not even care to see what materials we have here. They may probably think that the persons whom they know before more closely—and it may probably be with the best of motives—are the best and they go in for them without dispassionately considering the merits of those who are available here. It does not imply the absence of men of the right sort here. Sir, let it not be said of us that we, the non-officials at any rate, have given our consent to introduce the thin end of the wedge of importation. Let us not be carried away by the cries efficiency, exigencies of service, and all that. We managed without importation for a very long time and we are now the worse for it. There was a general feeling in the minds of the public and it was given expression to also that we should have a stronger man of business, an impartial man, at the head of the State, and as I said in my opening speech, we have one now. We shall be satisfied with him. I am sure by his right guidance and control we will be able to manage with the man, with the raw materials, that we have here. We shall not countenance any importation. I therefore appeal to you all, the non-official Members of the House, to support this resolution, to show to the Government that we at any rate, shall not be a party to the big drain that will eventually follow. It may be a thousand or a two thousand this month. It will increase from year to year, because they may bring in more and more persons from behind. I, therefore request all the Members of this Council to heartily support this resolution, and give their considered opinion to the Government so that they may utilise it before they make the final decision.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Is the Council to vote upon this particular appointment or on the general question of foreigners?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—On this particular appointment also.

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President.—The motion is for this particular appointment.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, my motion relates to the general principle of importation and also to the question whether there is any necessity at present to bring an outsider for the particular purpose which the Hon'ble Member for the Government has said.

Motoin put and negatived.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Poll, Sir.

The House divided—Ayes 10 and Noes 20.

	Ayes.		Noes.
1.	Dr. A. G. Menon	1.	Mr. I. E. Ambooken
2.	Mr. A. S. Harihara Ayyar	2.	,, A. L. Antony
3.	,, E. Ikkanda Wariar	3.	,, V. K. Aravindaksha Menon
4.	,, K. P. Kannan Nayar	4.	,, K. Ayyappan
5.	,, V. K. Kochunni Menon	5.	,, M. A. Chakko
6.	,, P. Krishna Menon	6.	,, A. Eachara Menon
7.	,, P Kumaran Ezhuthassan	7.	,, U. Kandar Menon
8.	,, A. K. Kunhi Moideen	8.	,, T. K. Krishna Menon
9.	,, K. Mohammed Seethi	9.	,, T. M. Krishna Menon
10.	,, A. B. Salem	10.	,, K. Krishna Pisharodi
		11.	,, C. A. Kunjunni Raja
		12.	,, C. J. Mathew
		13.	,, T. S. Narayana Ayyar
		14.	,, I. N. Menon
		15.	,, P. Neelakanta Menon
		16.	Mrs. G. Pavitran
		17.	Mr. D. Raghavendra Rao
		18.	,, T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar
		19.	,, I. Raman Menon
		20.	Rama Varmha Tampuran

Mr. A. S. Harihara Ayyar.—Number of absentees?

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—It is very easy for the Member to see who they are.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—How many for and how many against?

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Ten for and twenty against.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Neutrals?

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Not on my list.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Neutrals are to be recorded. There are neutrals.

President.—Yes.

Neutrals.

1 Mr. V. Achyuta Menon.
2 Mr. K. J. Antony.
3 Mr. S. S. Koder.
4 Mr. M. K. Raman.
5 Mr. Thomas Manjuran
6 Mr. E. A. Veigas.

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Motions Nos. 3 and 4.

The following motions were not moved and hence they were considered withdrawn:—

3. Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 155—9—0 for item No. 1 by Re. 1.*

4. Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 155—9—0 for item No. 1 by Re. 1*

Motion No. 5.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 155—9—0 for Land Revenue.*

President.—Mr. A. B. Salem.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I have asked this grant to be omitted. When this grant was originally moved the House did not understand that the work has already been taken on hand. If the House had then understood so this difficulty would not have arisen.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—It was announced that the staff was working.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The special staff was entertained before the demand was made in this House. I did not understand that supposing the special staff was entertained what follows? What are the principles that stood violated there? It is upon the constitutional question that I have tabled this motion. Under the Regulation and Standing Orders, whenever a new demand, not contemplated at the time of the budget, becomes necessary and a need arises during the current year for expenditure for which the vote of the Council is necessary upon some new service head, not contemplated in the budget for that year, the Government has to come before the Council for a vote. I refer to rule 53 of the Cochin Legislative Council rules (2). That estimate has not been presented to this House before the new staff was entertained and in demanding the grant the Hon'able Member has not said that he had the sanction. That I submit is wrong, and it might have been overlooked in the department. It should have been brought to the notice by the Comptroller of Accounts who stands to check all these matters. It should have been noticed in the Government Secretariat. It should have been even noticed by the Hon'ble Secretary of this Council. That there has been a whittling down of the rights conferred upon this House is not a small matter. I am only tabling this for the edification of the official bench which stands up for efficiency, which stands up for correct doing, which stands up for all kinds of policy sometimes diametrically opposite. According to the times they also change. It is not the fault of

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the officers alone. It is the general fault sometimes noticeable in many quarters in the State. The principle is a principle and a violation of it is a violation. And those of us who are earnest in these matters and who want to see that the control of the administration more and more passes into the hands of this Council as it legitimately should, we see no reason why we should be to the Government as only critics, irresponsible critics —because we are condemned to perpetual opposition—a sight which never takes place in any civilised country that desires to be governed according to the popular opinion. That is the point I wish to make out in this motion. The opposition, whenever it proves itself strong and shows that constitutional method is not adopted or is not understood by the Government, then the Government always changes in all countries. Here we have got a perpetual officialdom and a perpetual opposition. And what can we do? We can only attempt to formulate an opinion and place it before the Government. Still nevertheless Government alone can shape us. That is the position. I therefore submit that this grant ought not to be allowed. But being a very small matter, only Rs. 155, if the Government will own their mistake, I will certainly withdraw this and allow my Hon'ble Member to pay for the staff.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—He has already paid.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Ratify the payment already made. But of course we are told that this work is very necessary and that the department had to do it. Now I understand from my friend on the right that the Court itself is doing this by means of a commission. That is what I understood from the Hon'ble Member from the right and you ought to be satisfied with that. Now you see that survey training is necessary to partition the land. Indeed all that is necessary for the country is being done perhaps by non-officials who have not had this training imparted to them. This is what I have to say upon this motion.

President.—Anybody to second?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Motions need not be seconded.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—The sense of the House was not discarded, because originally the intention was to spend the money which the party agreed to pay. But laterly this House took objection to take any money from the party and therefore this question arises. In that aspect you may call it a mistake.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Is it not necessary to place a statement of expenditure incurred under rule 52?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Generally their pay would be disbursed.

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Mr. A. B. Salem.—If you had private money why was not that private money paid? Private money was taken and the staff was appointed and the intention of the Hon'ble Member was to pay them from that private money and he thought that the House will allow that private money to be taken.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Before it could be utilised the House took exception to it.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That position I want to explain.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—I shall explain. The principle adopted by the House was that Government officers have the duty to partition the lands. If the existing staff is not sufficient, Government should employ other people to do the work and pay them. Government have no right to take money from private parties. That view was accepted and the motion was withdrawn. The objection raised by the Hon'ble Members was accepted. The Government considered that that was the proper attitude to take and withdraw the motion.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I wish to say a word. In the long list that the Hon'ble Member for Jews gave out in connection with this cut motion, the learned Member included my name also as the Secretary of the Legislative Council. I do not know in what connection.

Mr. A. B Salem.—I shall, with your permission, give my reply. Sir, my point was that the Council Secretary should have brought to the notice of the Government that a statement ought to be placed on the Council table for the expenditure incurred without the sanction of this House, under rule 52. The sanction of this House was not obtained for the expenditure and therefore they had tabled for an additional allotment when we objected to private money being taken for paying the officers for a public work. That was the objection that we made. Therefore there was no ground for the expenditure to be incurred and the expenditure, if incurred, should have been covered by rule (521) and if it was not covered it was the Council Secretary s duty to point out to the Government that the working of the Council rules was not carried out. That is the sin that I laid at the door of the Council Secretary. Again the point arises that the Government after having come to this House for the 400 rupees which they wanted for three months and they could not incur it in anticipation of the Council allowing it, and therefore when the Council pressed it, what was the next procedure? It has to be spent under the emergency regulation or if it is already spent, a statement should have been placed before this

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House. Nothing is done. So the constitution in its working is so worked that even the little rights that we have got are whittled down. That is a procedure to which the House cannot agree.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Whenever I am wrong, I am prepared to confess the guilt or to meet the arguments boldly. But in this case I am glad to see that I am in the right. I invite the Member's attention to Standing Order No. 68.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I do not press the motion.

The motion was withdrawn with the leave of the House.

Question put.—'*that the demand may be passed*'.

Motion carried.

2. II.—Agriculture and Panchayats—Rs. 1,565.

President.—The next demand is for Rs. 1,565 under II—Agriculture and Panchayats.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Sir, I beg to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 1,565 under II-C—Village Panchayats—Irrigation—Repairs. This amount is required for the work of repairing Perumchira in Urakam Panchayat.

The chira in question is a minor irrigation work to be maintained by Government. The work of repairing the chira could not be included in the budget proposals for want of funds.

On inspection it was found that the chira was in urgent need for repair.

I request the House may be pleased to grant the amount applied for this work, *viz.*, Rs. 1,565.

Motion No. 1.

The following motion was not moved and hence it was considered withdrawn.

Mr. V. Achyuta Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,565 for item No. 2 by Re. 1.*

Motion No. 2.

Mr. K. Mohammed Seethi.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,565 for item No. 2 by Re. 1.*

Mr. K. Mohammed Seethi.—Sir, this motion is intended to bring to the notice of the Government the dangerous condition of two bridges in the Edavilangu village, which was brought to the notice of the Government as early as 1103 when we were discussing the budget of 1104. I had tabled a motion—motion No. 13—which related to this matter. These two bridges in the Edavilangu village have been in a dangerous state of dilapidation calling for the serious attention of the Agriculture and Panchayat Department. The matter was brought to the notice of the Government several times and as early as 1103 and it was not attended to. Now in 1106 I bring the same matter to the

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notice of the Government. I do not think that any explanation offered by the Government in justification of the delay will be acceptable to the Government. Two bridges have been in a hopelessly dangerous condition and I may tell this House that six or seven people fell down from them and sustained serious injuries. Yet, though the matter came to the notice of the Government sufficiently early, nothing has been done. I respectfully submit that this is a typical instance of the laxity and indifference of the Panchayat Department. I have not been harping upon it out of deference to the Head of the Department. One thing has, however, to be said, that of all the departments in the State, the Agriculture and Panchayat Department is the worst sinner in the matter of laxity. Sir, I submit that this motion is intended to be pressed by the non-official Members of this House as a typical instance of the laxity of this department. I hope the Government Member will have some explanation or other to be offered and on hearing that I shall speak further.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The bridges went out of order in 1103 and some temporary repairs were done in 1104. It went out of order during the last south-west monsoon. It was brought to my notice and the estimates for the repairs of the bridges are being prepared.

Mr. K. Mohammed Seethi.—May I know Sir, whether these bridges were in a safe condition in 1104 and 1105?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Some temporary works were done and the people could pass over it. It went out of order during the last south-west monsoon.

Mr. K. Mohammed Seethi.—May I know whether it was brought to the notice of the Government that there occurred some accidents to people while walking over these bridges?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I heard something. But it was not officially brought to the notice of the department.

Mr. K. Mohammed Seethi.—May I know when the matter was brought to the notice of the Agricultural Superintendent?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—In Thulam.

Mr. K. Mohammed Seethi.—Of the year 1106?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Yes, this year.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I have also a cut motion in my name which I do not intend to move. There is a bridge on the way to the Nazareth School in the Mattancheri constituency. It is a granite bridge about 4 feet high from the road. I want to bring to the notice of the Government this fact, so that immediate

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measures may be taken to put it into order, because elections are fast coming and cars and buses have all to go through. The polling booth is placed there on the other side of the bridge. People have to come and stop this side of the bridge. It is 4 feet deep and they must either cross it or go without voting. So that there is very urgent necessity for the bridge to be put into order or the polling booth will have to be shifted from there.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—It relates to the Municipality and not to the Panchayat.

Motion put and negatived.

Mr. K. Mohammed Seethi.—A poll, Sir.

The House divided—Ayes 9 and Noes 12.

Ayes.	Noes.
1. Mr. I. E. Ambooken	1. Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon
2. ,, K. J. Antony	2. ,, U. Kandar Menon
3. ,, K. Ayyappan	3. ,, T K. Krishna Menon
4. ,, M. A. Chakko	4. ,, T. M. Krishna Menon
5. ,, P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan	5. ,, K. Krishna Pisharodi
6. ,, A. K. Kunhi Moideen	6. ,, T. S. Narayana Ayyar
7. ,, C. J. Mathew	7. ,, I. N. Menon
8. ,, K. Mohammed Seethi	8. ,, P. Nilakanta Menon
9. ,, A. B. Salem	9. Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao
	10. Mr. I. Raman Menon
	11. Rama Varmha Tampuran
	12. Dr. E. A. Veigas

Motion No. 3.

The following motion was not moved and hence it was considered withdrawn.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,565 for Agriculture and Panchayats by Re. 1.*

Question put :—'*That the demand may be passed*'.

Motion carried.

3. II.—Agriculture and Panchayats—Rs. 957.

President.—The next demand is for Rs. 957 under II—Agriculture and Panchayats.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Sir, I beg to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 957 under II-C—Village Panchayats—Water supply. The amount in question is required for the work of repairing a tank in Matayikonam Village in Porathisseri Panchayat.

There was a provision of Rs. 725 in 1104 but the work could not be completed in that year on account of early rains. A sum of Rs. 194 alone was paid in 1104. When the work was inspected in 1105 some more additional work was found necessary to make the work more substantial and these have also to

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be got attended to. The whole work will thus cost Rs. 1,151, out of which only Rs. 194 was paid to the contractor. The balance amount required is thus Rs. 957. Since the work was not got completed and finally measured when budget proposals for 1106 were submitted, this amount could not be provided for.

I request the House may be pleased to grant the additional allotment applied for.

Motion No. 1.

The following motion was not moved and hence it was considered withdrawn:—

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 957 under item No. 3 by Re. 1.*

Question put:—*That the demand may be passed.*

Motion carried.

4. II—Agriculture and Pancayats—Rs. 4,150.

President.—The next demand is for Rs. 4,150 under II—Agriculture and Panchaynts.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Sir, I beg to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 4,150 under II—C—Village Panchayats—Communications—Repairs.

The amount is required for the improvement of the path through Chellanam.

This work was proposed to be carried out as a special one to provide work for the people of the Chellanam and the adjoining villages as a relief work.

The work was not provided for in the budget since the question came up for consideration only recently.

I request the House may be pleased to grant the additional allotment applied for.

Motion No. 1.

A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,150 under item No. 4 by Re. 1.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I have tabled this motion just to know how the road is going to be cut—from which point to which point—because of the necessity of making communications in the narrow belt of the territory between the backwaters and the south of the Cochin bar, and how the Harbour developments will affect these places. I have no objection to the relief work. I want only some information. What is the plan of the road going to be cut?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—From the southern point of the Kumblangi village to the other extremity of the Cheilanam village. So the road will run from one end to the other end of the village.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Has the work been started?

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Mr. I. Raman Menon — No.

The motion was withdrawn with leave of the House.

Question put:—*That the demand may be granted.*

Motion carried.

5. II—Agriculture and Panchayats—Rs. 200.

President.—The next demand is for Rs. 200 under II—Agriculture and Panchayats.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 200 under II—C—Village Panchayats—Communications—Original—for constructing reinforced concrete decks over Marangad and Perumkadambu chiras.

There is no provision for these works this year. In-Kanni 1106 the Panchayat brought to the notice of the department that the wooden bridges over the chiras were in damaged condition and required urgent repairs.

Since the work is urgent, I request the House may be pleased to grant the additional allotment applied for.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 200 under Agriculture by Re. 1.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I have already called the attention of the Government to the condition of Marangad chira. I hope they would kindly look into the matter. I want only to draw the attention of the Government to that matter.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Question put.—*That the demand may be granted.*

Motion carried.

6. II—Agriculture and Panchayats—Rs. 350.

President.—The next demand is for Rs. 350 under II—Agriculture and Panchayats.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of 350 under II—C—Village Panchayats—Communications—Original, for the work of opening road from Ottupara road to Kanjirakode village.

When I inspected the village I found the necessity of improving the existing poramboke lane. This road will also be useful to the Sandalwood plantation. The work is very urgent since the villagers are found to be put to much inconvenience for want of proper communication. It is proposed to repair the lane so that it may become useful to cart traffic also.

I request the House may be pleased to grant the allotment applied for.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know why it was not anticipated during the budget time?

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Mr. I. Raman Menon.—This was brought to the notice of the Department only this year.

Motion No. 1.

The following motion was not moved and hence it was considered withdrawn:—

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 350 for Agriculture by Re. 1.*

Question put.—*That the demand may be granted.*

Motion carried

7. II—Agriculture and Panchayats—Rs. 400.

President.—The next demand is for Rs. 400 under II—Agriculture and Panchayats.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 400 under II—C—Village Panchayats—Communications—Repairs.

The amount is required for the work of repairing the lane to Irinjalakkuda Girls' School. The work is found to be very urgent since the lane in question is in a very unsatisfactory condition now. The work will be very useful especially for the school-going population.

I request the House may be pleased to grant the additional allotment applied for.

Question put.—*That the demand may be granted.*

Motion carried.

8. II—Agriculture and Panchayats—Rs. 2,335.

President.—The next demand is for Rs. 2,335 under II—Agriculture and Panchayats.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Sir, I beg to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 2,335 under II—C.—Village Panchayats—water supply. The amount is required to complete the work of the Thekkekulam at Irinjalakkuda.

The total amount of the original estimate for the repair work was Rs. 10,204—out of which Rs. 6,204 was provided in 1105 budget and the balance of Rs. 4,000 in 1106 budget.

In the course of the execution of the work, deviations were found necessary for the satisfactory completion of the work and the revised estimate amounted to Rs. 19,850—4—0 including land acquisition charges.

In 1105, the total expenditure incurred was Rs. 13,595-4-0 and the balance amount required is Rs. 2,335 including a sum of Rs. 80 paid to the Section Superintendent who supervised the work in 1106 for two months. Thus an additional allotment of Rs. 2,335 is found necessary.

I request the House may be pleased to grant the additional allotment applied for.

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Motion No. 1.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,335 for Agriculture, etc., by Re. 1.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, I rise to move this token cut of one rupee, in order to impress the necessity of having these original estimates more correctly made. Here we have an nstance of an estimate of about 10,000 rupees being swelled by the time of the revised estimate into about 19,850 rupees—almost the double. May I know who prepared this estimate originally and what technical knowledge this gentleman, entrusted with the preparation of the estimate had ; and who scrutinised and sanctioned the same and why this great variation ? These are points on which I wish to press this motion of one rupee. If an estimate is to be prepared, one can understand the estimate being that side or this side by a variation of 5 or 10 per cent. To prepare an estimate and call it an estimate and ultimately find that in actual figures it has almost doubled the original one, makes an estimate only a haphazard work with no knowledge behind it. And if that spells 'efficiency', I have nothing more to add to that kind of 'efficiency'. Therefore, in order to impress upon the officials that slipshod work will not be permitted by this House as far as we could, we will carry this one rupee cut so that it may be a lesson to many that hereafter estimates must be prepared with some care and attention that is due to the preparation of estimates. That is all I have to submit.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—May I know, by way of information, whether this 20,000 rupees budgetted in this year's budget for the Panchayat Department, is to carry on work not completed and taken up in 1105? Is the demand now made over and above this 20,000 rupees ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—This is over and above the 20,000 rūpees.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Perhaps all that has been exhausted?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Yes. The chief causes for the increase in the estimate are the substitution of combination mortar for ordinary mortar—that is the addition of cement in the ordinary mortar. When the work was started it was found that it was very difficult to get suitable laterite stones for steps for bathing ghats, since those available in the locality were rather soft and would not stand the wear and tear. The steps were also plastered. Under the land acquisition charges we had to pay about 3,700 rupees. The original allotment was only 700 rupees. These items account for the increase in the estimate.

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Mr. A. B. Salem.—I have heard the reply and I am not at all satisfied with the explanations. That it was for the bathing ghats should have been known to the officer who prepared the original estimate. Who prepared the original estimate, I asked. That has not been answered.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—It was thought at first that ordinary mortar would suffice. But it was afterwards found that combination mortar had to be used.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The question is, who prepared the original estimates?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The estimate was prepared by my Overseer.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It was for a bathing ghat. That bathing ghats should not be constructed by smooth stones ought to be known to the person who prepared the estimate. After all he did not know that, and he prepared the estimate with soft stones that will melt in the water. He is only to prepare the estimates. Why should soft stones be accepted by the Government at all? If the contractor brings such, ask him to bring the required kind of stones. Therefore that is not an explanation why the additional money should be spent for strengthening this. Then again, acquisition charges. 700 rupees was the estimate and actually it came to 3,700 rupees. Not by 100 per cent; how many 100 per cents? What kind of estimate is this? This only proves the charge against the Government, that these estimates are not prepared with due care and attention. Therefore I want to impress upon the Government the principle, that more care should be bestowed on the preparation of estimates. So I press the motion.

The motion was put to the vote of the House and negatived.

Question put:—*That the demand may be granted.*

Motion carried.

The House rose for lunch at 2" past 2 P. M. and met again at 3 P. M. with the President in the chair.

9. VI—Excise—Rs. 1,200.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 1,200 under VI-Excise-Refunds. This is intended for payment to the Cranganur Principality, the duty due to the Principality on account of sales of opium and ganja within that Principality. In this connection I wish to inform the House that this does not involve any additional expenditure but only a mere adjustment of accounts. Prior to April 1930, on all purchases of opium and ganja from British, cost price, centage charges and duty used to be collected by the British Government from our Government. After the year

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is out, rebate of duty on the total quantity of ganja and opium purchased used to be granted. The amount received on account of the rebate used to be credited to the State and the Cranganur Principality, in proportion to the amount of duty due to each. Subsequently the British Government introduced a new system by which, they, in the first instance, collected only cost price and centage charges, so that the whole amount collected by the sales of ganja and opium to the licensees of shops used to be credited, in the first instance, to the State. It became, therefore, necessary to pay back to the Cranganur Principality the amount due to it, according to the proportionate sales. As this system was introduced only in the middle of the year, there was no provision made in the budget for refund of this amount to the Principality. It has therefore became necessary to come forward with the request for this additional grant. The total amount due to the Principality is Rs. 1,234. Rs. 34 can be met out of savings from the provision in the budget. But there is no provision for the payment of the balance of Rs. 1,200. It is for this purpose that the Government have come before the House for this grant.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. V. Achyuta Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,200 for item No. 9 by Re. 1.*

Mr. V. Achyuta Menon.—Sir, my object in tabling this motion is to bring to the notice of the Government the desirability of removing the toddy shop near Boothamkulam, Irinjalakkuda, from the present site to some distant place. I am sorry that I have to refer once more to this subject. For more than five years the Muslim residents of Irinjalakkuda have been agitating for the removal of this shop from their neighbourhood. I am sorry to inform the House that the Government has not done anything worth mentioning in the matter. The present Hon'ble the Excise Member's predecessor's predecessor issued a memo to the petitioners, telling them that the shop would be removed farther away from their neighbourhood as early as possible. But there the matter was left. During the last sitting of the Council, I put a question as to when the shop would be removed, as requested and I got an answer that the shop had been removed. My request was to remove the shop farther away from Muslim quarters. But the Member for Excise said that the promise was only to remove the shop. Formerly it was on the eastern side of the road. But now it is on the western side of the road. That is the only difference. Instead of removing the shop farther away from the Muslim quarters it has been removed nearer. (*Laughter*). Of course if the Government want to go by the

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opinion of the majority, it would be well to have the shop where it is, because most of the people who go to the shop to drink want the shop there perhaps, and the Muslims there form only a very small community. They are also poor and their voice has hitherto been a cry in the wilderness. I need not submit to the House how the location of a toddy shop near Muslim quarters would wound their feelings and religious susceptibilities. Of course the Hon'ble Member for Excise Revenue seems to suggest that, if the toddy shop is well screened up, their objection would be removed. I have only to observe that the dirtiest thing, even if packed in the costliest silk, will have its repulsiveness as before. Of course I have tabled a resolution also on this subject. I have said this much as regards the history of the toddy shop. Boothamkulam literally means a tank used or haunted by ghosts. Whether this tank is used or haunted by ghosts or not, this toddy shop has been haunting me and my Muslim constituents for some time past. I therefore request the Government to have this toddy shop removed farther away from Muslim quarters and not nearer With these words I commend this cut motion for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. K. Mohammed Seethi.—I would like to know from the Hon'ble Member in charge of the department what the Government have to say in this matter.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—My Hon'ble friend is not right in saying that the shop was removed nearer the Muslim quarters. It was removed to a site where it was located for the last so many years till 1104, and it was also screened from public view. With a view to see whether it could be removed farther away this year itself, I tried my best. It is not possible to find a suitable site within the boundary of the shop as it exists now. For the next year the boundaries have been changed and the shop will be removed. The Muslims of the locality were satisfied that it was not possible to remove the shop to another place within the boundary as it exists now, and they have put in a statement before my Inspector of the Mukundapuram Taluk that it is sufficient if the shop is removed next year. If necessary I will place it before the House. It is signed by the Secretary and many other members of the Association. From this the House will be pleased to see that the Muslims seem to be more reasonable than the Hon'ble Member. As they were satisfied that it was not possible to shift the shop this year, they have consented to have it in the existing site. I do not understand why the Member should be persistent in this

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matter, unless he wants to make it an election card.

Mr. K. Mohammed Seethi.—I am very sorry to hear the remark made by the Member for Excise on the motion just moved by the Hon'ble Member for Irinjalakkuda. If he can characterise the motion of the Member as an election card, I do not know how I can characterise the so-called statement of the Muslims of Irinjalakkuda referred by the Excise Member, as his trump card. Knowing as I do the feelings of the Muslims, I do not know how to characterise it except as a got-up show. It must have been forced out of the hands of the Muslims by the Excise Inspector; and how can any reliance be placed upon such a statement. And what do the signatories of the statement say after all? They have only said, in case it is impossible to remove the shop this year, they will be satisfied with its removal next year. Does it mean that they are satisfied with the present location?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—They say that they went with the Inspector to several places. They have also made mention of this fact in their written statement. They don't say that is quite convenient. I only say that they were satisfied. I tried my best whether it was possible to remove it this year itself. Of course, without the consent of the licensee, the shop could not be removed to a site outside the boundary and that is the only reason why it is not possible to remove it this year. For the next year it will be removed far away. I can assure the House that the shop will never be located in the present site and that it will be far away from that locality.

Mr. K. Mohammed Seethi.—It was only just now that the President of that Association of the young men of Irinjalakkuda told me that they had a grievance about this matter and asked me to move this House for the redress of that.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—I may correct the Hon'ble Member. The President of the Association was not there and they specifically state so in their statement. It is not possible to remove it from there now and if it had been possible, I would be the last man not to remove it. I even tried my level best to remove it this year. For the next year the boundaries have been changed and so there will be no difficulty. I wrote to my Inspector to consult them and also suggest any site, if it is possible. They were also satisfied. There may be places outside the boundary. The shop could not be located outside the boundary without the consent of the licensee. Now it is not open to the Government to change the boundary. It is usual to fix certain boundaries for the shop and the licensee is entitled

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to locate his shop anywhere within that boundary. So without changing the boundary it is not possible to remove the shop to another place outside the boundary. There are many places available outside the boundary. But without the consent of the licensee the shop cannot be removed. Though they do not say that they are satisfied with the present location they have realised the difficulties of the Department for shifting the shop this year. On the assurance given to them that the shop will be located outside the limit next year, they have consented to the present location. I can only say this much now.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—May I know whether any attempt was made for getting the consent of the licensee?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—I myself went and tried to influence him. Of course he is trying to find some reason or other for the non-payment of kists. He complains of depression. If it is shifted outside the boundary, that will be another ground for claiming remission. On account of breaches in the Karuvannur bridge they say they have suffered; they also claim remission on account of trade depression; and if the shop is removed outside the boundary, then he will certainly say that he cannot pay anything. That is the real position of the Government. Government do not want to locate a shop in any Muslim quarters or Hindu quarters. There is no necessity to do that. I would be the last man not to respect the sentiments and feelings of other communities. Since the site was not objected to for so many years it was located in the present site. I am now speaking of the present site. So naturally the departmental officers thought that there would be no objection. It is only subsequently that they have taken objection to the site. The Muslim quarters are behind the shop; so nobody thought that there would be objection from them. I went to the place twice to see whether something could be done and I think my Hon'ble friend will himself testify to that. I asked the Hon'ble Member whether he could suggest any other site.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—This matter was brought to the notice of the Government in 1104 and I interpellated the Government on this subject. The then Member for Excise assured me that it would be removed in the subsequent year.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—There are no papers in the office regarding that. We tried our level best to see whether anything could be done this year.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.— We are quite alive to the Hon'ble Member's keenness in this matter, because he had once asked me to suggest a site myself after going to this place. But there was no call from him and hence I did not go. I quite

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realise his earnestness in this matter but my complaint is that nothing has been done. I agree that there is a will and my prayer is that something may be done in pursuance of it. With regard to the other licensees I want to know whether they have been asked on this matter.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Yes. I personally asked him.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—എക്സൈസ് മെംബർ ഷാപ്പുകളെപ്പററി പറയുമ്പോൾ ഷാപ്പു കൺടാക്ടർമാർക്ക് ദോഷകരമായ ഒരു അഭിപ്രായംകൂടി പറയേണ്ട ആവശ്യമുണ്ടായിരുന്നില്ല. അദ്ദേഹം ഗ്രഹിതകൊണ്ടു പറഞ്ഞതാണെങ്കിലും ഷാപ്പു കൺടാക്ടർമാർ ഈ കാലത്തു് അവരുടെ കിസ്തു കുറച്ചുകിട്ടണമെന്നു വാസ്തവമായ സങ്കടമില്ലാതെയാണെന്നു സൂചിപ്പിക്കയുണ്ടായി.

മിസ്റ്റർ യു. കണ്ടർമേനോൻ.—അതു ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—എന്നാൽ എനിക്കൊന്നും പറയാനുമില്ല.

Mr. V. Achyuta Menon.—As for the Hon'ble Member's statement that the site of the present shop is farther from Muslim quarters than it was in 1105, I have only to say that it has this year been shifted just outside the southern wall of the kitchen of a Muslim house. With regard to the other statement made by the Hon'ble Member that I have used this subject as an election card, I seek the protection of the Chair. I take serious objection to such a statement and such a statement ought not to be made on the floor of this House. To make such a statement in this House is unparliamentary.

President.—I do not think there is anything serious in that.

Mr. V. Achyuta Menon.—I do not press my motion and I withdraw it.

The motion was withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motions Nos. 2 & 3.

The following motions were not moved and hence they were considered withdrawn.—

2. Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,200 for item No. 9 by Re. 1.*

3. Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,200 for refund to Cranganur by Re. 1.*

Question put:—*That the demand may be granted.*

Motion carried.

10. VI—Excise—Rs. 724.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 724 under VI—Excise—Temporary Establishment. The warehouse establishment was a temporary

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one till now. According to the orders passed upon the Report of the Special Finance Committee this temporary establishment was to be made permanent. The reorganisation, so far as it affects the preventive force of the Department, was not given effect to, because it was not possible to give effect to it on account of the fact that certain provisions of the Abkari Regulation had to be amended. In the honest belief that the scheme would come into force at least on the 1st of Chingam 1106, there was no provision made under temporary establishment for meeting this expenditure. But this establishment was included in the permanent establishment list. There is, therefore, necessity to transfer this amount from the amount provided for under permanent establishment. Since the permanent establishment comes under non-votable head and the temporary establishment comes under votable, the sanction of the Council is necessary for making the transfer. That is the reason why I have come here for this grant. There is no additional expenditure here also. The amount has already been provided under permanent establishment. I request that the House will be pleased to vote the demand.

Question put. *That the demand may be granted.*

Motion carried.

11. VI—Excise—Rs. 890.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 890 under VI—Excise-Preventive Force. This is intended for the payment of certain special allowances to the peons and other servants of the Department. According to the orders passed on the Special Finance Committee Report, payment of these allowances were to be stopped as soon as the reorganisation comes into force. As I said already, it was not possible to give effect to the scheme till now. At the last meeting of the Council a motion was made for an additional allotment of Rs. 2,208 under XXXIII-Miscellaneous. Thenit was submitted to the House that the balance necessary for this purpose would be met by transfer from other sources. The other source is from the amount providedfor under the head, Circle Inspectors. There will be savings there to meet this expenditure. Since it is a non-votable item the sanction of the House is required for transfer. I request that the Council may be pleased to grant this allotment. Here also there is no additional expenditure. It is only a transfer from one head to another.

Question put. *That the demand may be granted.*

Motion carried.

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12. VI—Excise—Temporary Establishment—Rs. 330.

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 330 under VI—Excise—Temporary Establishment. The amount is required for meeting the pay of the clerk proposed to be deputed in connection with the compilation of the Excise Manual. The need for an Excise Manual has been very keenly felt for many years. I request the Council may be pleased to grant the amount as it is for an unavoidable purpose.

Question put. *That the demand may be granted.*

Motion carried.

13. XI—Registration Rs.—135.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 135 under XI—Registration. This is to meet the expenditure to be incurred to lay a pipe from the Nemmara Water Works to the Registry Office. Since the work is urgent, and since no provision is made in the budget, this small amount may be voted by the House.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 135 for Registration by Re. 1.*

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—That is only to call the attention of the Government to the question of water supply in another most important place, namely, Ernakulam. Now the question of water supply to Ernakulam came before this House in another form early this morning and it was said that the report of the committee has not been completely received. So far as I am concernedi what exactly is the desideratum to make it complete I am at a loss to understand. On a former occasion it was said that a dissenting minute has not been received. But as a matter of fact I know that the dissenting minute has been submitted two or three months since. So far as my knowledge goes, the report is complete and there is nothing to show that the report is not complete. All that I say is that the hot season is advancing with a vengeance. So far as this year is concerned, unless this question is satisfactorily settled—we are now in the midst of the hottest part of theyear—itwill cause considerable inconvenience to the public of Ernakulam. It is to call the attention of the Government to this dire necessity that I have tabled this motion and not for reducing the amount for the Registry Office.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The Government will be passing orders on the report at an early date. The report is still incomplete, as the dissenting minute of Dr. A. R. Menon has not yet been received.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Has he not signed the report? Was there any qualifying word?

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Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Is there no time limit?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—We have to wait for a reasonable time. He has been promising to send the minute.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I do not want to press the motion. I withdraw it.

The motion was withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motion No. 2.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 135 under Demand XI by Re. 1.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I have tabled this motion to bring to the notice of the department the method adopted in supplying water to Mattancheri. There, for some time we had no trouble. Just like water becomes intermittent we have got intermittent troubles also from the Public Works. All of a sudden, without any notice, the taps are dry and sometimes for hours together, during the hot months we have no water from the public hydrants. We have been pressing for house service connections and we are willing to pay for the water supplied to houses; and still we have not been allowed that system yet. I cannot understand why, when water is sold to the Municipality of Cochin, when water is sold to the steamers that come here, and when water is sold to the machines of the Tatas, why water cannot be sold to the inhabitants of Mattancheri as well. We have absolutely no good water in the soil at Mattancheri, and even the little water that we can collect will be soon contaminated. Therefore it is essential that we should get at least good water for drinking purposes, at least during these hot months. Government must come to our aid in providing us good drinking water. If you do not do so, sickness will increase. That again will be another drain on the Government by the supply of medicines. Epidemics like cholera and small-pox may soon become rampant and they may break out and cost money. Therefore the water question is a very important question. The 30 thousand people living there are contributing perhaps the highest amount of taxes to the State. They ought to be treated specially if it is possible. From that strip of land you perhaps get the largest revenue, and if you take the customs revenue into consideration you get perhaps the highest amount from that locality. Therefore in that place you ought to give your attention in a large measure and give as much water as we want. I would add, even to waste; but I do not do so. We have been agitating in this House for house service connections along the lines where pipes have already been laid, and we have got enough of barges to carry water and we can also pump enough of water.

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We are also willing to pay for it and we will also pay. I therefore urge upon the Government that this supply of water for Mattancheri, at least, would be extended and facilities to enjoy the same may be provided by the Government. It is only to impress upon the Government the early necessity of doing that, that I have tabled this motion.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I need not mention to this House the difficulties which have to be overcome with regard to the water supply to Mattancheri. The problem, as you all know, centres round the actual transportation of water across the backwater. At present water is carried by barges and by this method the supply could only be necessarily limited. We have found by experience that, with the present equipment, it is not possible, with our barges, to supply much more than 56,000 gallons a day. That would mean that it would be impossible to give house service connections till a pipe line is laid across to Mattancheri.

As regards the laying of the pipe line there are two proposals, one for a submerged pipe line and the other for taking the pipe line over the bridge which is to be constructed. We are now waiting to see if that bridge is to materialise, as it will then be a much more satisfactory proposition to take the pipe line over it. At present, therefore, we are obliged to adopt an intermittent supply of water in Mattancheri, and we have notified to the Chairman of the Municipality regarding the hours of supply.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Any notice put up?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—We have notified the hours of supply to the Chairman of the Municipality.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I would add one more word. It is a very important matter. It is stated now that till the bridge comes we need not expect to get water into our houses. I suppose the Hon'ble Member means the railway bridge that may ultimately come. If that is so, it will take a very long time indeed. We have not prepared to wait till that. Some arrangements must be made by our Engineering Department to make the pipe cross.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I did not specifically say that we must wait for the bridge. If the bridge will be constructed within a reasonable time it will be much better to carry the pipe line over it. If it will not come we will think of other means.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I cannot expect more than that.

President.—Do you press for a division ?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—No.

The motion was withdrawn with the leave of the House.

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Question put: *That the demand may be granted.*

Motion carried.

14. XIII—General Administration—Huzur Secretariat—Purchase of Books —Rs. 400.

President.—The next is demand for Rs. 400 under General Administration.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 400 under XIII—(1) Huzur Secretariat-Purchase of Books. The usual allotment that is made under this head is Rs. 500. But some orders had to be placed with some Calcutta firms regarding some British enactments in the Indian States. They were received only this year. It would not be anticipated when exactly they would be coming and naturally no special provision could be made for that. Now one volume of that has come in and other volumes are expected. Until now we have spent Rs. 481-2-0 under this head and only a balance of Rs. 18—14—0 remains. Since these volumes ordered are expected shortly, an additional allotment of Rs. 400 is asked for. That may kindly be voted by the House.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 400 for XIII—General Administration by Re. 1.*

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Sir, strictly speaking this is a grant required for the purchase of books and we have nothing to say against purchasing books for the use of the Secretariat and their edification. But this being the only motion under General Administration, I thought I shall avail myself of this opportunity to speak something about the general depression of the times. My point is that the relief measures proposed to be taken by Government are absolutely inadequate to meet the present depression problem. It is a problem of starvation, prevailing throughout the length and breadth of the country and it has affected the middle classes much more than the working classes. The measures proposed by the Government under this head are mainly meant to provide work for the poor by taking up construction works under the P. W. D. and the Panchayat. And I am astonished to find in that order that the Government do not feel that the time has come for doing something by way of remission or suspension of taxes. This is what they say.- "The times are not sufficiently bad to justify a remission of Land Revenue particularly as the crops are good". Sir, I beg leave to submit that this is not a correct view. The times cannot be, I should think, worse than what it is to-day. Let us look at the price of paddy per para. Sir, last year this time it was nearly rupee one per para while it has now gone down to such a low level, to such

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unprecedented low level, as something like six annas. This heavy fall in the price of paddy, the main produce of the land, on which depends the maintenance of over millions of our people, don't you think, Sir, is a fitting occasion for doing something by way of remission of land taxes? Can Cochin find more evil days than this? I really wonder. And therefore I request you, Sir, who have been so prompt to take immediate action in this matter, to seriously consider the situation and be pleased to order some remission of the land revenue forthwith.

Then, Sir, there is the question of excise revenue. Excise revenue has always been characterised in this House as the "Devil's money" and a revenue on which the Government ought not to depend. Now Sir, this is the time when you have to make certain concessions in the excise revenue. From the statistics of the arrack shops it will be seen that the sale has reduced to even more than 50 per cent of what it was last year. What does this indicate? Every man with some possibility for money and who is addicted to drink will not forego this big attraction. It shows how the purse of the people has been affected. They could not find even the means to have a small drink, their usual relief after heavy work. I should think, Sir, that this is another criterion for measuring the real economic depression among the poorer classes. If, as I have stated, the sales in the shops have gone down to more than half of what it was, don't you think, Sir, it is a fitting occasion to reduce the kists also? Government ought not to cling to their estimated revenue and say that whatever might happen they would not budge an inch till they made the entire amount. They ought to see, Sir, into the real state of affairs in Cochin to-day and do whatever they can to reduce the kists—amounts in proportion to the fall in the sale of arrak and toddy in the State. Sir, in certain parts of the State there are kuries in which people have already deposited a big amount, but to-day they find it very difficult to pay their monthly instalments. On account of the non-payment, the conductors of the kuries acquire the right to auction away the defaulted-tickets of the subscribers. Now, Sir, what is the real effect of this penal clause? A ticket in which a man has deposited a thousand rupees by many monthly instalments, is auctioned for something like hundred rupees. There is that great risk. Because of the present economic depression, the poor folks could not find sufficient money to pay the monthly instalments. They could not therefore run the kuri without default. What is the result? He finds his right on Rs. 1,000, sold for Rs. 100. And he loses thereby his hard earned money

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to the extent of Rs. 900. Because of the depression, the purchaser also could not afford to give an adequately good price. Is this not a thing in which the Government ought to interfere? Should you not put a stop to the kuri conductors profiteering and the poor subscribers losing heavily? It is not the fault of the poor subscriber. He naturally depends upon his normal income. He thought that his paddy would fetch one rupee per para. But he gets only six annas. With this he could not maintain his own family and much less can he find amount to pay for the kuri. I beg to submit, Sir, that this penal condition in the kuri vaimpu works great havoc in the rural parts. Unless the Government interfere and see that the kuries are at least suspended for some time, till conditions improve, it will ruin every man practically. It is the biggest imaginable hardship in our parts now. It seriously affects the middle classes. I quite realise that the kuri conductors might enter their protest against this move, for they stand to lose all the profiteering they might make to-day. But that is no reason why the Government should keep quiet. This is an occasion when they ought to interfere. You should hesitate no longer. I therefore request that, besides trying your very best to find means to give some remission in the Land revenue as well as in the Excise revenue, you should also interfere and see that the kuries are suspended for a short period at least, until conditions get better in Cochin. These poor people's rights should not be allowed to be sold away so mercilessly, taking advantage of some of the penal conditions of the kuri vaimpu.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—I also heartily support the motion of the previous speaker. Now it is fortunate that the Government have been so prompt as regards the poor people in this matter. But a perusal of the proceedings will show that the Government was in a fix as to the measures to be adopted effectively to protect the people and it is our duty in this connection to suggest some other measures, which would really alleviate the sufferings of the poor people. Now, with regard to Land revenue and Excise revenue, the previous speakers have said. I may add in this connection, if it is not outside the scope of this discussion, that over and above the Land revenue, the Devaswam Michavaram has also to be suspended for some time. The present Government has lessened the price of paddy remitted to the Devaswam. But it is much above the prevailing rate of paddy in the land. It behoves the Government in this connection that sympathetic consideration should be extended to Devaswam tenants. Then again, with regard to

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kuri security bonds, the previous speaker dealt with, I only suggest that resolution number 21 standing in my name, relates to the same matter. There I have stated the suspension and collection of kuri amount for nearly two years. I know that there will be real hardship in enforcing those rules in respect of some sureties, who might become pauper in a day. But I would request the Government to confine this resolutian to those security bonds in which landed properties are given as securities. There is no apprehension on the part of the kuri starter that he will lose. In that case at least, the Government will be pleased to issue a communique to the Chief Court to advise the several Courts of the land to suspend the suits pending there or to suspend the operation of acceleration clause in such bonds. Again another effective method which will really lessen the depression will be to advise all Courts in the State to fairly consider section 331 and to make instalment decrees. In that case the decree-holder does not stand to lose. If instalment payments are ordered by the Court then it would be better, it will be a real solution, for debtors who are day by day arrested and harassed and most of whom are mainly land-holders.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—How can the Government advise the Court ?

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—Now it is left to the Courts. If only that discretion can be exercised in a more liberal manner, I think it is in the power of the Government just to advise the Courts with regard to Excise revenue. A concession has been made in the Proceedings; a month's time has been allowed for the payment of kists in the treasury. It is really hard to suppose that within one month's time the famine will be off. I only request that the Government may grant more time, or at least make a remission, or at least suspend the collection of kists. With these few words, I sit down.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Sir, I support this motion, and in doing so, I sincerely congratulate the Government on the promptitude with which they passed orders on the resolution of this Council. I honestly feel that under different circumstances the resolution would have been a cry in the wilderness and would not have been acted upon, with anything approaching the promptitude with which it has been done now. I heartily congratulate the Government on the earnestness they have evinced in this serious matter. As was remarked by the Hon'ble Member for Chalakkudi, the orders passed by the Government do not solve the problem that was brought to their notice. No doubt it affords some relief to the poor people, but as far as the numerous middle class people are concerned, the orders provide

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no relief whatsoever. As for the measures of relief suggested by the Hon'ble Member for Chalakkudi and the Hon'ble Member for Antikkad, I might say that they are not without parallels in the sister States. For instance, the Mysore Legislative Council took up this question and in compliance with the suggestion of the Members the Government agreed to a remission of the revenue kists and in that way afforded some relief to the people. This is what appears from the Council Proceedings of Mysore, reported in the daily papers. So what I say is, it will not be a strange thing for the Members of this House to make that some relief should be afforded to the people in the matter of remission of taxes and similar dues to the Government. Then, with regard to kuries, I beg to submit, that except in the case of salaried officers and people with a fixed and definite income it is becoming impossible for the kuri subscribers to pay their subscriptions. Even well-to-do people find it extremely difficult to make the payment. Owing to the hopeless and unthought of fall in the price of the products of the land they are unable to meet their every day needs much less to pay the instalments of these kuries. And what is worse is that most of these kuri vaimpus or kuri agreements have some hard provisions, such as the one that, if a prized subscriber makes default to pay one instalment, the starter of the kuri is entitled to realise all the future instalments in a lump sum which in many cases would mean the complete ruin of the subscriber. Even in the case of rich persons the loss and trouble resulting from the enforcement of such provisions will be serious indeed. Another great difficulty is caused by the way in which non-prized tickets are sold for a song in case of their default. Taking advantage of the helplessness of the non-prized subscribers to pay the subscriptions in time, the starters are selling their tickets for paltry amounts. Of course these are things which the starter is entitled to do by contract and unless the State interferes, they can do so quite freely. If the State cannot order the suspension of the kuries for a time, they can at least prevent the enforcement of these hard provisions of the kuri vaimpu. It would surely afford considerable relief to a high percentage of the population of the State. I would respectfully urge another point on the attention of the Government and that is this: will not the Government be justified in exploring some ways by which the low price of the products of the land may be improved, such as the appointment of a trade agent or a trade representative through whose instrumentality good markets may be found for our produce? I request that I should not be accused of throwing out an irresponsible suggestion. I simply

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bring this matter to the attention of the Government and it is my request that they may kindly and seriously consider its practicality and usefulness. The cocoanut producers of the land are at present at the mercy of half a dozen merchants in Cochin. They do not know what market they can have for the copra, the oil and the coir yarn which they produce. They have to depend entirely upon a few merchants and firms in Cochin who dictate the prices. If the Government can come to their rescue and can extend the horizon of their business beyond Cochin there may be better demand and a better market for their produce. That alone can afford any substantial and permanent relief to the producers. It will be a sure relief to the large middle class of the State. I am sure that Government will seriously consider this aspect of the matter.

With these words, I heartily support the motion moved by the Hon'ble Member for Chalakkudi.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I wish to support this motion. I am very glad to find that the Government have already taken some steps in the matter. The great economic depression is prevailing not only in our State, but throughout the whole world. There is a wave of economic depression prevailing from one end of the world to the other. But the general spread or existence of the depression is no excuse for not tackling it in earnest and not endeavouring to do what little we can to save our people from the effects of that depression. We are told that there was a meeting or a series of meetings by certain Heads of Departments presided over by the Diwan and certain measures have been recommended. So far so good. But I believe that was not enough. There ought to be, if the conditions that we complain are present, a vigilance committee always watching and trying to see whether any help is wanted and what help could be given. As a matter of fact, I do not know if the Government is well aware of the seriousness of the existing situation. Prices of produce have gone down very seriously in the case of cocoanut and paddy. As regards the other produces, for instance, cardamum, pepper and ginger, the pirce is not a fourth of what it was before. One fact has to be remembered in this agricultural country. The place of Savings Banks investments and even of insurance is taken by investment in kuries. I do not think there will be even a single agriculturist who has a savings bank account of his own. What little money they have got, they have a method of investment and that is by investing in a kuri. Their little savings are thus collected into a lump as times goes on either by bidding or by winning tickets, when they get a certain amount of ready money. So that what

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has been an honest attempt of a poor man towards enriching himself by steady thrift, namely by investing as much money as he can in kuries, has now practically become a great and severe strain to him. I know a number of people who have invested as much in kuries as would allow them just to scrape through in times of fair prices. It is because of this sudden fall in prices that many of them are in very bad distress. These kuries, to a man who does not understand the place of kuries in Malabar, may not appear serious at all. Especially in the western parts of the State and the places which depend more upon cocoanut and paddy, every agriculturist has one kuri or more of his own for which he pays money as soon as he gets money from cocoanut or paddy. Since the prices have gone down so badly these agriculturists find it very difficult to pay dues. There is on the other hand another question: Is it enough to call for a moratorium in kuries? Personally, I might say, I don't think it is time yet. I think it is high time to watch the situation very closely. If these conditions continue for an appreciably longer time a moratorium may be required, for otherwise you may find a number of agriculturists being ruined. We do not want that. Our people are thrifty people. They do not want to be ruined for reasons over which they have no control. I know that trade depression is prevailing seriously in other parts of the world. But that is no reason why we should not help our ryots. In the matter of Abkari Revenue, I think that the Abkari shopkeepers have already pressed the Government demanding redress. Their shops were bid for on the basis of the normal consumption. If on account of unanticipated reasons, either economic or otherwise, there is a great falling off in the consumption of liquor contributing materially to diminish their earnings, it is only equitable that the Government should do something for them. These are not matters which can be seen from outside. There ought to be a vigilance committee. If Government is convinced of the fact that there is a bad depression, it is not a matter for desultory action but for consistent watching and vigilant action whenever and wherever action is required. I support the motion on that ground, that the Government should give more help and be more vigilant. The public are certainly thankful for what has been done. Relief works are certainly desirable because they not only help the relieved but give good returns also otherwise. But relief works of the sort proposed help only the poor and unless they are very extensive will not be of general help. There are the middle class people who are the backbone of the State, whose interests have also to be looked in to. I would request the Government to pay more

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attention to this matter, to have a vigilant committee and take such timely action as necessary till this distress is out of our land.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, as stated by several Members of this House the hard times have been very severe on those living in the coastal areas. It is mainly the fall in the price of cocoanut that has afflicted the land than anything else. The price of paddy too has gone down. It is the fall in the price of the cocoanuts that has more afflicted than anything else. Attention of the Government was, therefore, concentrated upon means by which relief could be brought to these people. Now, going into the details it has to be admitted the depression has affected all the different classes equally, the middle, the labouring and the higher classes. Coming to the labouring classes the Members themselves admit that the works that are proposed to be started will actually give considerable relief. Coming to the other classes for whom it is that the remission of Land revenue kists is advocated, the Government has one very serious difficulty in their way. It is a well known fact that cultivation is not always taken up by the pattadar himself. Remission will be to the pattadar. What guarantee is there that the same remission will be guaranteed to the real person who wants it? There is even the chance that a remission from the Government may not really be to the good of that class of people whom it is intended to benefit.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—That is no insuperable difficulty, Sir.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I would like to have the suggestion as to how it could be effected so very easily.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—If you want my suggestion, I will tell you. Your fear is, if you give remission to the so-called jenmies, the non-cultivating tenants or jenmies may go away with the profits. First and foremost make it a point that relief will be given only to cultivating tenants. The Diwan Peishkar certainly will be able to tell us, if he really tries to ascertain, in 48 hours who are the cultivating tenants and who are not. Where there is a will there is a way. I say the Diwan Peishkar has got an elaborate machinery behind him. Send an order to your Tahsildar as urgent as you can possibly make it, and ask them to take a list of the pattadars who are the actual cultivating tenants or jenmies. Where is the difficulty?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The method advocated is so very easily said. But in fact the distinction will be so narrow that it will be rather difficult to know who exactly are the cultivating tenants and who exactly are simply the pattadars. Then

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coming to the other item—and that was pressed upon more than anything else—namely, suspension of the penal clause in kuri agreements, Government should really say that it would be the last step that they should take in any emergency. Kuri is, as every one knows, a private contract between certain sets of people and that should be the last place where the Government should lay their fingers on. Kuri is not an isolated unit in the financial organisations of the State. It is only part and parcel of other financial arrangements. The starter of the kuri might have committed himself to many obligations because of this kuri itself. Should we not provide for him protection if we are going to hamper the regular working of the kuri on which he himself depends. The logical conclusion of any such step will be, as the Member for Antikkad said, to suspend even the decree executions in the Civil Courts. For, what about mortgages and other private financial commitments? They also shall have to be interfered with. In short the result would be that wherever there is a financial obligation Government should step in and say that financial obligation is suspended until further notice. That is really a step outside all practical politics. These are the main points which were most touched upon. I may in conclusion say that all that could possible be done has been done and that, as the Members remarked, with all promptitude.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Regarding land-owners it has become necessary to state that a stage has been reached when they find it very difficult to pay the Sirkar revenue on account of the fall in prices and want of collections; and the Government, appreciating their difficulties, must come to immediate relief. But from what has now been urged by the Secretary to the Diwan the Government's real difficulty is represented to be that the landlord may misappropriate the amount remitted by the Government without giving corresponding remission to the actual cultivator. I emphatically repudiate that charge. I can suggest that the Government may issue a Proclamation that the actual cultivator need not pay this Sirkar tax and that he need pay to the land-holder only the balance of the rent after deducting the tax. There will be absolutely no difficulty to do it and the relief will reach the hands of the cultivator.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—But who can control the book balance of the land-holder?

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—When there is a Proclamation that the actual cultivator need not pay this amount to the landlord he can get a remission from the rent and he need pay only the balance. What is the use of a book balance when there is no liability to pay in the eye of the law?

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Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—What I say is they will generally have an accumulated balance in accounts to which any payments could be adjusted.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—This amount will not be legally payable. There is no use of adding it to the book balance. There is absolutely no difficulty if a Proclamation is issued. Land-owners are quite willing to give that relief to the cultivators and the Government, by the suggested Proclamation, will not be confronted with the difficulty as to who are the pattadars. Land-holders do find it difficult to pay tax and it is rather very hard times. Land-holders do not get any rent and still the tax has to be paid. Under these circumstances the Government need not be confronted with the difficulty that the relief may not reach the cultivator. As suggested, the Government may as well issue a Proclamation extending the relief to actual cultivators.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—As some of the Members have already solved the difficulty pointed out by the Hon'ble Secretary with regard to the remission of land-tax, I need not say any thing more about it. I insist that the time has come for Government to interfere in kuri matters. Kuri is the Savings Bank of the people of Cochin, where they invest their hard-earned money. And you find their investments sold away for nothing. If the Government would not interfere and save the subscribers these poor people are sure to be ruined. I therefore press the motion.

Motion put and agreed to.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—A poll, Sir.

The House divided. Ayes 15 and Noes 13.

Ayes.	Noes.
1. Mr. I. E. Ambookan	1. Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon
2. ,, K. J. Antony	2. Dr. A. G. Menon
3. ,, M. A. Chakko	3. Mr. U. Kandar Menon
4. ,, A. Eachara Menon	4. ,, T. K. Krishna Menon
5. ,, A. S. Harihara Ayyar	5. ,, T. M. Krishna Menon
6. ,, E. Ikkanda Warriar	6. ,, K. Krishna Pisharodi
7. ,, V. K. Kochunni Menon	7. ,, T. S. Narayana Ayyar
8. ,, P. Krishna Menon	8. ,, I. N. Menon
9. ,, P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan	9. ,, P. Nilakanta Menon
10. ,, A. K. Kunhi Moideen	10. Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao
11. ,, C. A. Kunjunni Raja	11. Mr. I. Raman Menon
12. ,, C. V. Kuriyan	12. Rama Varmha Tampuran
13. ,, C. J. Mathew	13. Mr. A. B. Salem
14. ,, K. Mohammed Seethi	
15. ,, Thomas Manjuran	

The demand of Rs. 400 minus Re. 1 was then put to the vote of the House and carried.

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15. XV—Law and Justice.—Rs. 318—1—0.

President.—The next demand is for Rs. 318—1—0 under XV—Law and Justice.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 318—1—0 under XV—Law and Justice. Under the Government orders, the staff attached to the Additional District Judge of Trichur should have been disbanded by the end of the year 1105. Unfortunately as the orders were not brought to the notice of the District Judge and as there was also a misapprehension of the scope of the order, the staff was continued for a period of four months more and their pay was paid. It was only then that the mistake was discovered and the mistake appears to be a bonafide one. In these circumstances I pray that the House may be pleased to grant the allotment.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—The mistake was in interpreting the order Will you please read the order?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—"The establishment would be attached to the principal District Court of Trichur until further orders." That was the wording of the Proceedings so that the District Judge and the Sheristadar thought that they would get further orders for the disbandment. No further orders were issued to that effect but the Additional Judge ceased to function by the end of the year. That is how the establishment was kept on.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 318—1—0 for Law and Justice by Re. 1.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I have tabled this motion for calling the attention of the Government with reference to the appointments in the Judicial Department. It is a fact that has been prevailing for some time, that appointments in the Judicial Department are made by Government more often without consulting the Chief Court than otherwise. This matter has been a matter of controversy for a long time since the time of Mr. Banerji. One eminent Judge of the Court who was acting as Chief Judge relinquished his appointment on this ground from the Chief Court, and came out, and since that time this matter was engaging public attention. Somehow or other a desire to keep patronage solely in the hands of the Government has stood in the way of the salutory principle being given effect to. With regard to the work of the Munsiffs and the District Judges, if there is one competent authority that could see how they are working, that authority is certainly the Chief Court, where their work comes up in appeals or otherwise and they look into the matter more seriously than others. Therefore to introduce that principle into our State, certainly, is only just

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and proper. Why should not the Chief Court, which is after all a part of the Government machinery, be consulted in making appointments to the grades of Munsiffs or District Judges? Of course as regards the appointments in the Chief Court, that is a matter which Government alone should handle. Government may have reasons for it. In British India, I think, in all appointments of the Munsiffs, the High Court makes the appointments. In Travancore all Munsiffs' appointments are made on the recommendation of the High Court and with reference to the District Judges the High Court in Travancore is always officially consulted by the Government. The High Court there has a system, whereby all the Judges of the High Court sit for these appointments and how to choose them and then they make their recommendations to the Government. That is called by a particular name 'A Departmental Full Bench'. They decide with consultations with one another and make their recommendations to the Government. Such a principle ought to have been in the State long ago and it is very regrettable to note that persons who have been both at the Head of the Chief Court and in the Administration have not seen the point. When they were in the Chief Court they were very anxious to get the power into their hands. But when the Chief Judge was translated into Diwanship the principle evaporated. That again I put down to the human desire to keep as much patronage in one's hand as possible and thereby tantalise people or give it as prize for good conduct or for bestowing it upon favourites or for the exercise of nepotism. Such charges would all vanish, if in these matters of public appointments, the Chief Court is asked to make their recommendations, as far as these appointments are concerned. I would say as far as Munsiffs are concerned, it ought not be done except on the recommendation of the Chief Court. As far as District Judges are concerned there may be matters of policy as well weighing with the Government and their policy may be indicated to the Chief Court and the Chief Court be asked to give their recommendation according to the policy that the Government may put down. I may instance one case of which I have personal knowledge in Travancore. The Government of Travancore wanted to appoint a non-caste man as a District Judge. They asked for a recommendation from the High Court. The High Court said "we have not got a non-caste man. We have got only these few people who, in our opinion, are fit." The Government sent back the recommendation to the High Court and said "from the Bar select a person who is not a caste man". So they sent a list of two or three

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names and said, "we have got nothing more to add to this". It went back to the Government--the Government of Mr. Raghavayya, to be exact—and it chose the man from the list and that was how Mr. K. K. Chakko, my friend, got the appointment there. Therefore, in these matters of policy Government may dictate their policy and ask the Chief Court to select accordingly,to and from that list or from the particular selection that they may make, the Government may appoint. What does it matter to the Government whether A is appointed, whether B is appointed or whether C is appointed. It matters to the particular section that cries for the loaves and fishes of office; but to a Government that wants to meet out justice and fairplay, the best thing is to ask the Temple of Justice to make their recommendation. It will fortify the Government from all attacks with reference to these appointments, from all charges of favouritism or anything undesirable, and it will only reflect credit upon the Government for decentralising their patronages and sharing the responsibilities with men with whom they should share. It is for the purpose of bringing this to the notice of the Government that I have tabled this motion.

Rama Varmah Tampuran.— Even at present in the case of appointments of the higher grades of the Judicial Department the Judges of the Chief Court are invariably consulted.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I do not press the motion.

The motion was withdrawn with leave of the House.

Question put: *That the demand may be granted.*

Motion carried.

16. XV—Law and Justice—Rs. 54.

President.—The next demand is for Rs. 54 under XV—Law and Justice.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—Sir, I rise to move for an allotment or rather a transfer of Rs. 54 under XV-Law and Justice. When the establishment of the second Additional Judge of Anjikaimal was sanctioned, two Harikars of the Diwan's personal staff were ordered to work in the District Court. Their pay was Rs. 16 each. But as peons they are entitled to draw only Rs. 12 and Rs. 11. So the difference in the pay of these peons for 6 months at Rs. 9 comes to 54. This can be transferred from General Administration where there is already provision. It does not involve any extra expenditure. I therefore request that the House may be pleased to sanction the allotment.

Question put: *That the demand may be granted.*

Motion carried.

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17. XV—Law and Justice—Rs. 5,500.

President.—The next demand is for Rs. 5,500 under XV-Law and Justice.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 5,500 under XV-Law and Justice—Travelling Allowance. On the report of the Special Finance Committee, enhanced rates of travelling allowance were sanctioned to process servers and peons. In the budget for the current year 1106, provision was made only for the normal allowance. It has therefore now become necessary to move for the enhanced amount. I therefore pray that the House may be pleased to sanction this allotment.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. P. Krisha Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 5,500, Law and Justice by Re 1.*

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—It is only to draw the attention of the Government to special circumstances which cause considerable inconvenience and injury to certain parties who are to appear in Courts. I refer to persons who are brought in execution of decrees to Civil Courts when the presiding officer is unfortunately absent. In such, the only provision, so far as I know, that is now made under the Rules or the Rules of Practice in force in Civil Courts, is to authorise the chief ministerial officer to receive the batta to send the person to jail. But as a matter of fact and as a matter of right, when a person is brought before Court under a warrant of arrest—of course civil warrant—he has a nmuber of procedures open; one of which has cast the duty upon the Court to inform the person so brought that he has a right of putting an insolvency petition and that he can go away, if such petition is undertaken to be put in and the necessary security given. Even that could not be exercised as a matter of fact in the absence of the presiding officer. So in all such cases such persons are unfortunately driven to the necessity of being sent to the jail. That is a hardship which ought to be remedied against, especially because legal provision is in existence. If opportunity is given to the person to take advantage of it he can go away under proper safeguards. I therefore want to impress upon the Government that adequate steps may be taken to remedy the evil and to do away with this inconvenience and injury. It is only to bring this matter to the notice of the Government that I have tabled this motion.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Government will consider that point.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—On that assurance I beg to withdraw.

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The motion waswithdrawn with leave of the House.

Question put: *That the demand may be granted.*

Motion carried.

18. XVII—Police—Rs. 600.

President.—The next demand is for Rs. 600 under XVII-Police.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 600 under XVII-Police. This amount is required for effecting certain urgent repairs to the Police motor boat. The boat was not working satisfactorily and I got it examined by the Mechanical Assistant to the Chief Engineer who suggested certain repairs. The estimate comes to Rs. 600. It is highly necessary that the boat should be kept in perfect condition. I therefore request this House to sanction the allotment.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—What is the price of a new boat?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—It may come to about 6,000 rupees.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know from the Hon'ble Member whether it is not better to provide it with a new engine rather than making these patch works?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—There is nothing serious in the matter with the engine.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I do not know whether the engine after repair will last for two or three years.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—The Mechanical Assistant has reported that if these repairs were made the engine will work satisfactorily for some time.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I do not press.

Motion No. 1.

The following motion was not moved and hence it was considered withdrawn:—

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 600 for motor boat by Re. 1.*

Question put: *That the demand may be granted.*

Motion carried.

19. XVIII.—Education—Rs. 3,000.

President.—The next demand is for Rs. 3,000 under XVIII—Education.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I beg leave to move, Sir, for an additional allotment of Rs. 3,000 which has been rendered necessary because, in accordance with a recent notification of the Madras University, Ernakulam has been made a centre for the

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Practical Examination connected with Physics and Chemistry of the B. A. Degree Examination. A similar request on behalf of the Natural Science Department was sanctioned in 1104, and since this is the first time that this privilege of being made the centre for this practical examination has been extended to Ernakulam, I request the House will be pleased to sanction this additional allotment, which is required for the purchase of apparatus, appliances and chemicals required for these examinations.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,000 for Education by Re. 1.*

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—This cut motion of mine is intended to bring to the notice of the Government that the present arrangement of asking Headmasters of High Schools to do the work of Deputy Inspectors is not a proper or a healthy arrangement even from the point of view of the Government. The Headmasters of High Schools are officers of a higher grade and scale of pay than the Deputy Inspectors whose work some of these Headmasters are asked to do. In the matter of travelling allowances, the Government have to incur greater expenditure on these Headmasters acting as Inspectors than otherwise. So the arrangement means a pecuniary loss to the Government. I therefore request the Government that this arrangement may not be continued by them.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I wish to draw attention to the fact that this arrangement is purely temporary and has been rendered necessary to make the period of transition from the old Inspectorate to the new as smooth as possible. We had three Inspectors before, and if all the three are dispensed with and we take in all these raw hands, the work of inspection and direction might suffer. The Department is often called upon to institute confidential enquiries of a very searching nature, and if these raw hands are to be entrusted with the work Government apprehend that it may not lead to very good results. Hence the deputation—not of all Headmasters but of one—as an Inspector for a very limited period. Although the Hon'ble Member does not specify the period, I may announce to the House that the period will not exceed twelve months. This was rendered necessary, as I said, partly because of this department's difficulty about inspection work and secondly because of these Inspectors, one has for years been doing only inspection work and is not equally qualified to take up the duties of a

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Headmaster. In the case of the other two, the difficulty did not arise because they have been, till very recently, Headmasters. But with regard to one, this difficulty was pointed out and this has been resorted to only as a purely transitory measure which will be terminated at the end of twelve months.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—In view of the statement of the Hon'ble Member for Education that it is only a transitory arrangement I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion.

The motion was withdrawn with leave of the House.

Motion No. 2.

Mr. K. Mohammed Seethi.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,000 for Education by Re 1.*

Mr. K. Mohammed Seethi —Sir, this motion is intended to draw the attention of the Government to the hard lot of a certain class of teachers in our Educational Service who are known as the Quran teachers and the Arabic munshis. Ever since I came to this Honourable House to represent the Muslim community, I have been inviting the attention of the Government to the most unsatisfactory and hard lot of this class of teachers. In my first budget speech in 1103 I made a specific reference to this matter and ever since that, on all possible and conceivable occasions, I used to urge this matter upon the attention of the Government. In the last budget session there was a cut motion which stood in my name. But when I tabled the motion the Hon'ble Member for Education had the kindness to say that this matter would be considered by the Government. He held out some hopes about the betterment of the pay of these teachers. In view of the attitude of the Government I did not press the motion to a division. This matter has been brought to the notice of the Government not only by me in this House but also by several representative associations of the Muslim community. There were public meetings held and resolutions passed requesting the Government to revise the salary of these teachers. Recently the grievances of the Quran teachers were voiced forth by the Central Teachers' Association of the State, and in their representation made to the Diwan they made it a specific point that the Quran teachers should be classed as specialists and paid accordingly. The present salary of a Quran teacher, the Hon'ble Members would be pleased to understand, is only Rs. 10 per mensem. For a poor teacher to be asked to subsist on this poor salary of 10 rupees, especially in these hard times, willbe something amounting to cruelty as I took the liberty of saying in my last budget speech. The general explanation advanced by the Government when this matter is dis-

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cussed is this: After all this is a luxury as far as the Muslims are concerned. Quran teachers are religious instructors. The Muslims are the only people who are given this privilege. If they are given these privlleges, should they not be satisfied with it ? In answer to this one or two points may be made clear. For one thing, the role of the Quran teacher is not that of a religious teacher. The main work which the Quran teacher does is to give instruction to the Muslim pupils in the elements of the Arabic language. The Arabic language is the language of religion and culture so far as the Muslims are concerned. So they would naturally like to have a knowledge of that language. Muslims send their children very early in their life to schools where Arabic language is taught to them. Since our schools do not teach the Arabic language, Muslim girls and boys of school-going age generally avoid these modern schools and prefer private and old-fashioned religious institutions. Thus they lose the benefits of modern education. Our Government recognised this fact and in order to attract Muslim pupils, facilities were attempted to be provided for the teaching of Arabic language in schools. The experiment, as far as it was tried, proved very successful. More pupils were attracted to schools mainly on account of the Quran teachers. If the necessity for encouraging educationally backward communities for the simple reason that these communities have been contributing equally to the coffers of the State as their sister communities which had the start of years in point of education and that it should be only fair and proper that the former should have a corresponding return by way of additional facilities for their educational uplift is conceded, I do not know why it should not be done in an effective manner. Teaching of Arabic is adopted by the Government as one of the forms of such encouragement. If the encouragement is worth giving it is, of course, worth giving well. To starve the Arabic teacher is not certainaly the proper way to encourage the teaching of Arabic. Unless these teachers are well paid and well fed they cannot be expected to instruct the pupils well. They would always be discontented and the temptation will be almost irresistable to shirk their work. Thus the result is bound to be that the Quran teachers will be there and yet there will be no increase in the strength of Muslim pupils. The quality of the work which they turn out will be the subject of perpetual complaint by the Muslim guardians. I may submit that, because these teachers happen to be teaching Arabic, they should not be denied the ordinary consideration shown to other teachers. They are also teachers and they have also to teach young children.

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No invidious distinction should be made between them and their brother teachers. My request, therefore, is that no time should be lost in doing justice to these semi-starved teachers. On the recommendation of the Special Finance Committee the Government ceased to make any distinction between one classical language and another with reference to the salary of the teachers of those languages. Consistent with that attitude of the Government, Arabic Pandits should be treated as the equals of Sanskrit pandits. But Arabic teachers are placed under a grade lower to that of the teachers of other languages. Arabic is as much a classical language as Sanskrit or any other. It is a living language and it has a rich and growing literature. Why the teachers of such a language should be treated as inferior to other teachers is a matter which I cannot understand. When this matter was pointed out to the Government the then Director of Public Instruction was pleased to give me some consolation that the matter would be looked into and the inequality would be rectified. According to the recent revision of salaries other specialists are receiving Rs. 25—50, if I am not mistaken. I do not think that there is any justification in denying the same scale of pay to Arabic teachers who have also to do the same amount of work.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I also support this motion. This is a fact that relates to my constituency as well. These are special constituencies and we seldom come before you for these matters. It will be noticed on page 58 of the budget that the masapadies of the Primary Schools get Rs. 10 and the Quran teachers also get only Rs. 10. There are only 25 Quran teachers and only a very small amount will have to be found, if the proposal from the non-official side be accepted by the Government. There are also one or two Hebrew teachers in some grant-in-aid schools in whose case also, I think, the Government would look into—not only look into but really do something—and thus redress their grievances.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The Government are also aware that the salary of these teachers is not adequate. But for that matter I think, the Government is also convinced that the salary of the teachers in the lower grades is also inadequate and instead of making piecemeal recommendations to this Council for getting this revised the Government had decided that it is better to revise the whole thing. I recognise these facts and when the new proposals are submitted to Government all these will be duly considered. I suppose a few weeks ago there was even a reference regarding the Hebrew teachers and it is being considered on these lines. I wish to show the House that the

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matter is receiving the urgent attention of the Government and no avoidable delay is being made.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—I just want one information, whether these proposals are under consideration of the Government.

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The proposals are under the consideration of the Department now and will be submitted to the Government very shortly.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—In that view of the matter I do not press the motion.

The motion was withdrawn with leave of the House.

Question put.—*That the demand may be granted.*

Motion carried.

President.—Since to-morrow is new moon day, the Council will begin its sitting only at 1—30. We shall now adjourn.

The House rose for the day at 2' past 5 p. m.

T. K. KRISHNA MENON,
Secretary to the Council.

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